SPRING
ISSUE
No. 18

BLACKHAWK

10¢

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and
ALL FOR ONE!"



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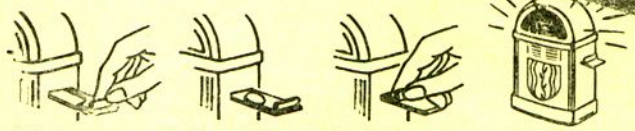
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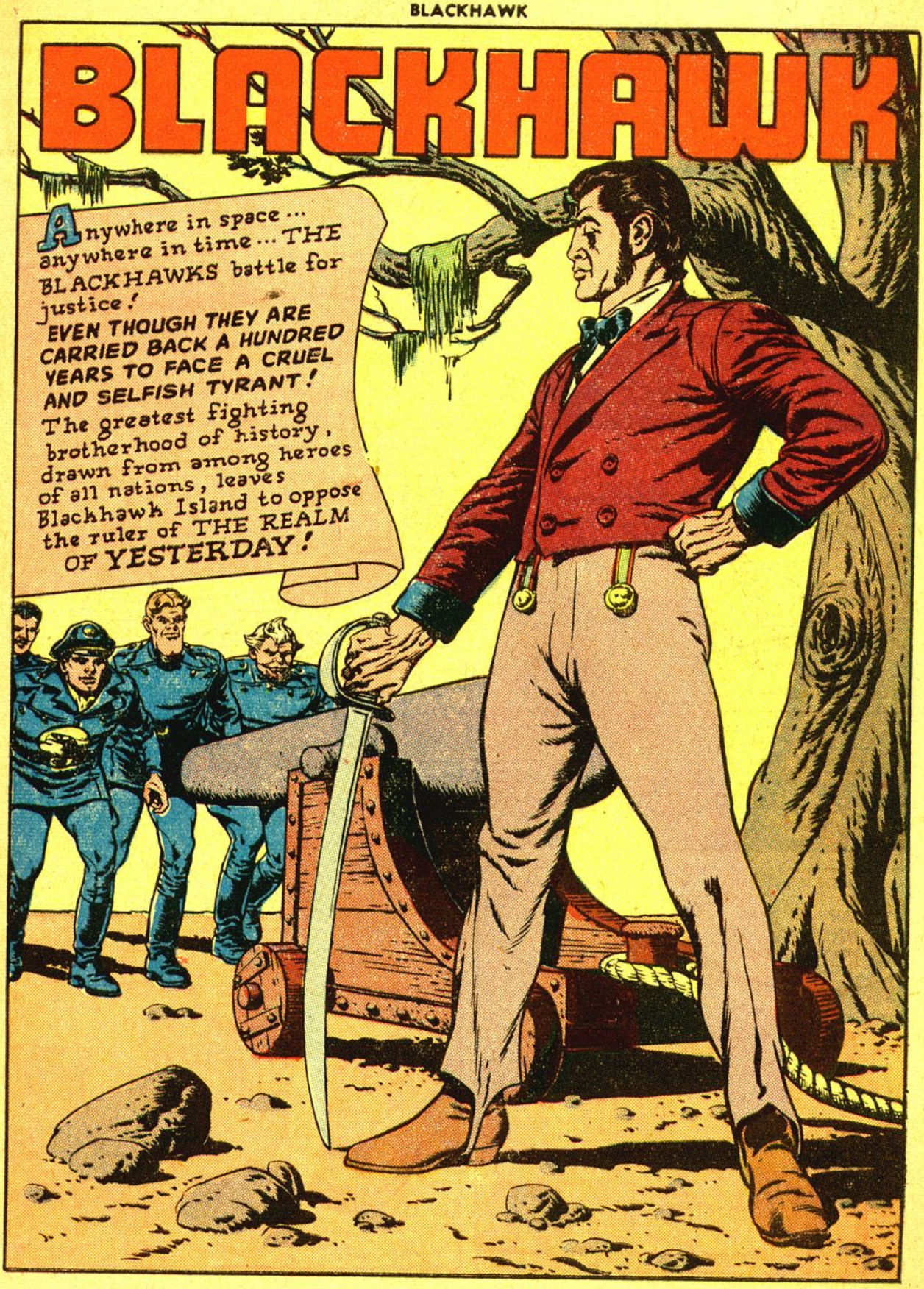
Name

Address

City Zone State

☐ I am enclosing $1.69. Send Juke Box Bank Prepaid.

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BLACKHAWK
Anywhere in space... anywhere in time... THE BLACKHAWKS battle for justice!
EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE CARRIED BACK A HUNDRED YEARS TO FACE A CRUEL AND SELFISH TYRANT!
The greatest fighting brotherhood of history, drawn from among heroes of all nations, leaves Blackhawk Island to oppose the ruler of THE REALM OF YESTERDAY!


It is by constant training and experience that the Blackhawks maintain their wondrous skill in flight...
KEEP FORMATION, MEN! WHY ARE YOU PEELING OUT, STANISLAUS?
SOMETHING DOWN THERE IN THE SEA, BLACKHAWK! IT'S TOO BIG FOR A FISH.. TOO SMALL FOR A BOAT! I WANT TO SEE WHAT IT IS!
NOW I KNOW! SOME SORT OF WRECKAGE OR FLOAT... AND, YES... A MAN ON IT!
IN DISTRESS, TOO! LET'S GET HIM!
IS HE DEAD, BLACKHAWK?
NO, BUT HE MAY BE DYING! LET'S RUSH HIM BACK TO BLACKHAWK ISLAND!
POOR FELLA IN PLETTY BAD SHAPE... BUT CHOP CHOP GIVE CHINESE MEDICINE! HE WAKE UP NOW... FEELEE MORE BETTER!
VRAIMENT! HE SEEMS ABLE TO SPEAK!
I THINK I KNOW THOSE BLUE TUNICS! YOU ARE... THE BLACKHAWKS! IS YOUR LEADER HERE?
I'M BLACKHAWK! WE FOUND YOU FLOATING ON THE OPEN SEA AND BROUGHT YOU HERE! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
I--I'VE BEEN IN ANOTHER CENTURY! BRUTAL, HORRIBLE TREATMENT... A HUNDRED YEARS IN THE PAST!
A STRANGE BEGINNING! HENDRICKSON, WRITE DOWN WHAT HE SAYS!
2

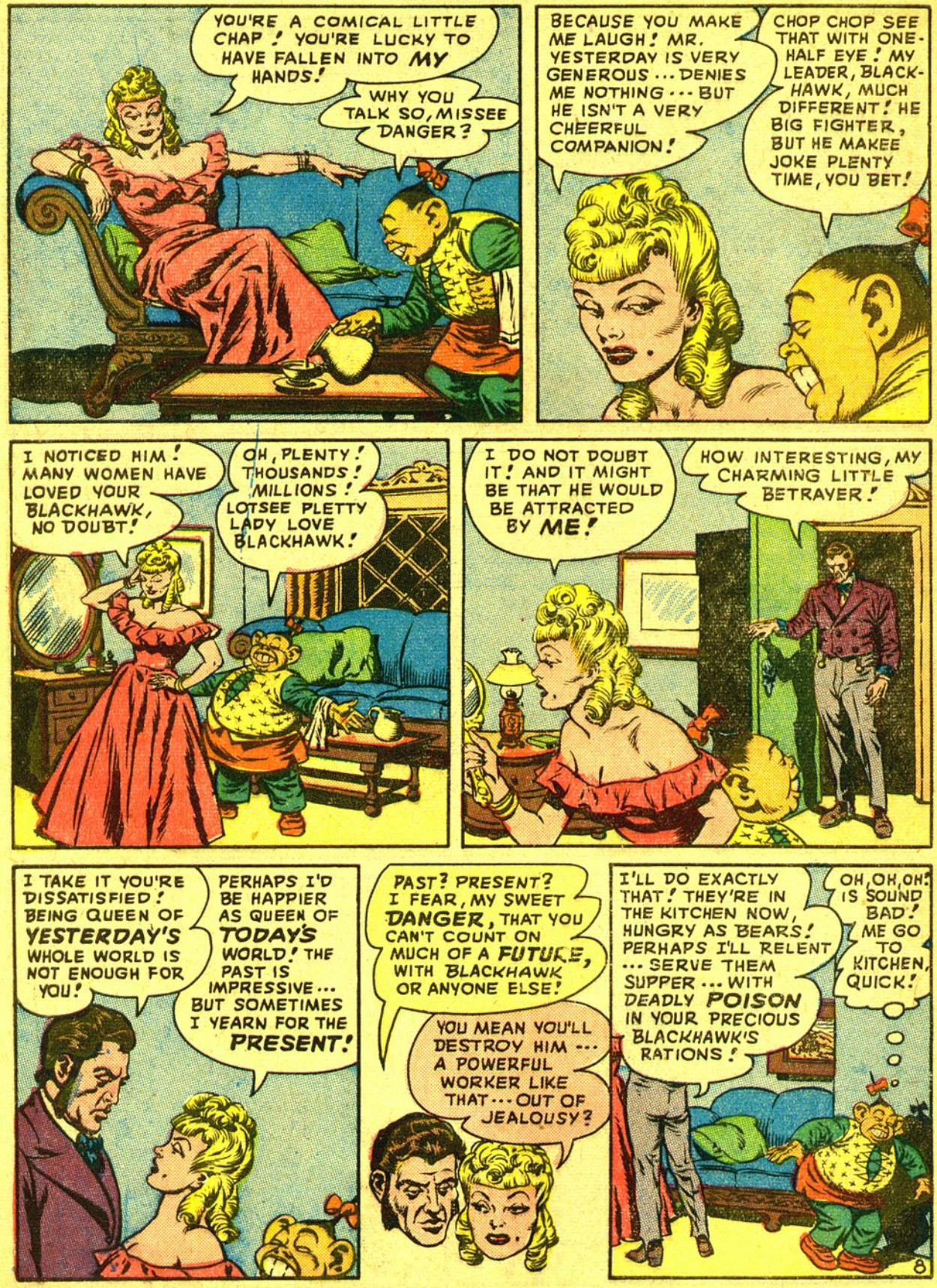

I'M AN AVIATOR ... WAS FLYING OVER THE OCEAN TO CHART A POSSIBLE NEW AIR ROUTE BETWEEN ISLANDS! I CAME TO A GREAT CLOUD OF VAPOR ... IT MADE ME FEEL FAINT, AND I WAS BARELY ABLE TO LAND MY PLANE ON A SHORE BENEATH!
VAPOR! SHORE! DAS BAN SOUND SPOOKY, ANDRE, YA?
BIG FIERCE-FACED MEN DRAGGED ME OUT! THEIR MASTER CALLED HIMSELF MR. YESTERDAY! SAID IF I WAS TO LIVE, I MUST WORK LIKE AN ANIMAL FOR HIM! FINALLY I TIED TOGETHER A COUPLE OF LOGS, DRIFTED AWAY FROM THAT TERRIBLE PLACE ... OHHH!
KEEP YOUR WITS, MY FRIEND! YOU SPOKE OF ANOTHER CENTURY! WHAT DID YOU MEAN?
I MEAN WHAT I SAY! EVERYTHING THERE IS LIKE ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO ... CLOTHES, TOOLS, LANGUAGE ... AND SLAVERY! LET ME REST NOW!
CHUCK, GET READY TO FLY THIS CHAP TO THE MAIN-LAND! HE NEEDS A HOSPITAL AND GOOD DOCTORS! THEN RENDEZVOUS WITH US ON OUR SPECIAL RADIO SIGNAL!
RENDEZVOUS WITH YOU OTHERS, YOU SAY? THAT MEANS WE'RE GOING HUNTING FOR ADVENTURE!
RIGHT, CHUCK! I'M GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY ... THIS NINETEENTH CENTURY WHICH SEEMS TO BE SURVIVING IN OUR DAY!
A HUNDRED YEARS AGO WAS 1848! IN THOSE DAYS, SLAVERY AND OPPRESSION WERE STILL COMMON ... STILL PRACTISED! STAND BY YOUR PLANES, THE REST OF YOU!
Again the Blackhawk squadron flies forth to seek and strike at evil ...
WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR CHUCK, WE'LL SEPARATE AND SEARCH FOR THAT CLOUD OF VAPOR, KEEPING IN TOUCH BY RADIO!
ROGER!
ROGER!
3

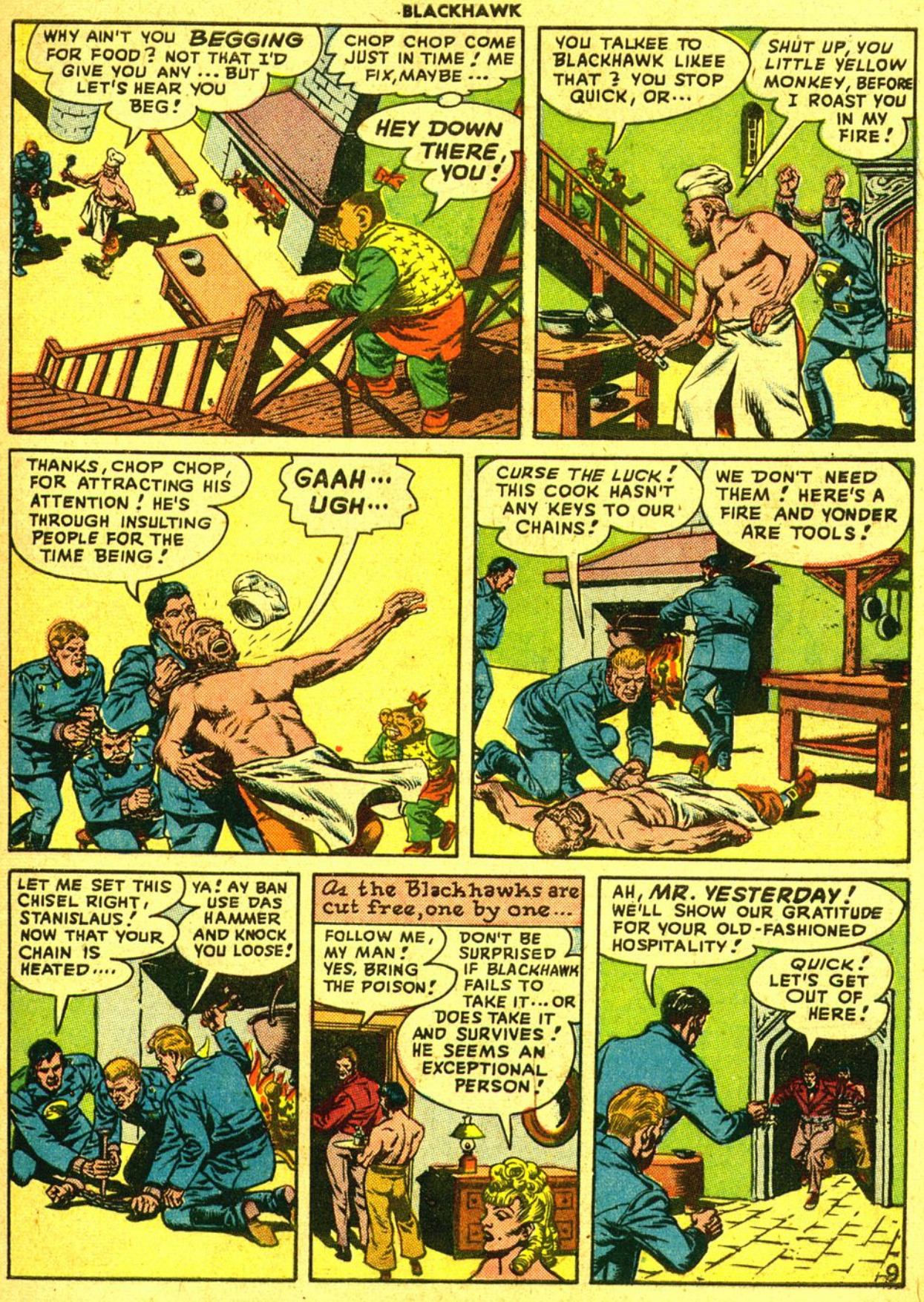

The Blackhawks scour the open sea for miles in all directions ...and then ...
SMOKE, BY YUPITER ... OR MAYBE DAS BAN VAPOR! HOHOY, BLACKHAWK!
WHAT IS IT, OLAF?
AY BAN FOUND DAS VAPOR PLACE! YA, I BAN GET CLOSER NOW... YUMPING YEEPS, AY SEE HAZY T'INGS INSIDE ... WHOLE ISLAND, MAYBE!
AY BAN GOING IN AND LOOK... YA! AY SEE IT NOW! YUST WHAT BAN DAS T'ING?
DAS MOTOR MISS! AY FEEL PURTY BAD YAAA!
OLAF! OLAF! SPEAK TO ME! WHAT HAPPENED?
ATTENTION, ALL PLANES! RENDEZVOUS QUICKLY AND HEAD WHERE OLAF'S LAST SIGNAL SOUNDED!
ROGER!
HERE I COME!
WAIT FOR ME!
HERE I AM... CHUCK! LET ME IN ON THIS!
VAPOR CLOUD AHEAD! GET ON YOUR GAS MASKS AND SAIL IN ... READY FOR ANYTHING!
4


But as Blackhawk heads into the cloud---
I SEE A SHORE LINE, AND OLAF'S PLANE AT THE VERY WATER'S EDGE! BUT MY MOTOR'S MISSING--- BADLY! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I'LL HAVE TO LAND HERE! THE OTHER PLANES ARE IN TROUBLE, TOO!
OLAF! WAKE UP!
MORE OF THE OUTSIDE-WORLD PEOPLE!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! OUR PLANES SEEMED TO FAIL!
BECAUSE THEY ARE OUT OF THEIR CENTURY! THIS IS MY DOMAIN AND WE HAVE STRANGE LAWS OBEYED BY ALL---- EVEN MACHINES!
PERMIT ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF--- I AM MR. YESTERDAY! THIS ISLAND BELONGED TO MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER, WHO HAD THE WHIM TO KEEP ALL THINGS IN THE CONDITION AND STYLE HE LOVED BEST! HIS DESCENDANTS STILL DO SO! AND THIS LADY ANSWERS TO THE NAME OF MISS DANGER!
I BEGIN TO SEE THE TRUTH OF A STRANGE STORY I'VE HEARD--- ABOUT BYGONE CUSTOMS, INCLUDING SLAVERY, IN AN OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLACE, HIDDEN IN VAPOR!
SPEAKING OF SLAVES.. LET ME HAVE THE FUNNY LITTLE YELLOW MAN, DARLING!
5

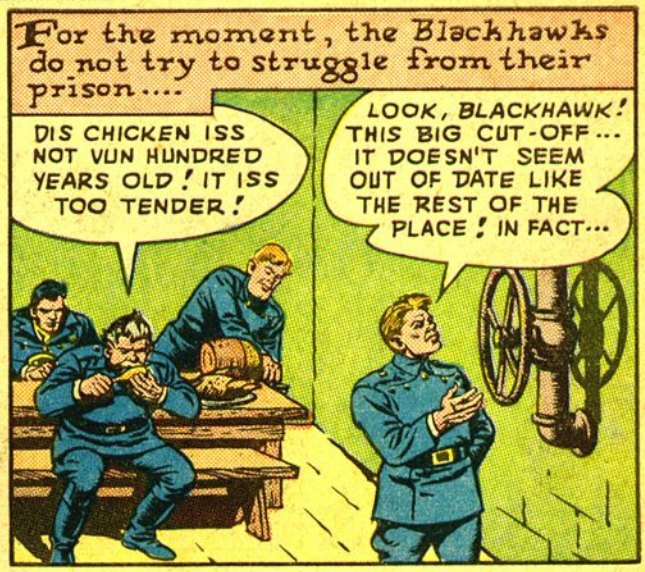

TAKE HIM, MY DEAR, WITH MY COMPLIMENTS!
HOLD ON, YOU! NEITHER CHOP CHOP NOR THE REST OF US ARE YOURS TO GIVE OR TAKE AWAY!
YOU DIDN'T SEEM TO HEAR ME! MY LAWS ARE OBEYED HERE ... NOT THOSE OF THE OUTSIDE WORLD! SHOW HIM WHAT I MEAN, ONE OF YOU!
IT'LL BE A PLEASURE! NOW, THEN...
HOW'S THIS FOR PLEASURE?
REGARDEZ! WAN OF ZE THEENGS ZAT HAVE IMPROVED IN ZE LAST HUNDRED YEARS ... ZE TECHNIQUE OF ZE FIST!
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY! SMASH THEM!
JA ... VE ALL DO SOME SMASHING, NEIN?
WITHDRAW, MEN! YOU CAN'T WIN THAT WAY!
NO ... THEY CAN'T WIN ANY WAY!
YOU RETREAT SO EASILY?
YOU BOASTING FOOL! I ONLY CALLED MY MEN OUT OF RANGE OF... THIS!
6


THE VAPOR! SHOULD HAVE KEPT OUR MASKS ON··· OHHHH!
WAIT UNTIL THE HAZE CLEARS A BIT! THEN CHAIN THEM AND GATHER THEM AT THE MANOR HOUSE!
When the mists clear and the Blackhawks revive···
NOW WHAT?
PERHAPS YOU'LL LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY AND BELIEVE ME THIS TIME!
YOU'LL NEVER GET BACK TO YOUR OWN WORLD OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY! HERE IT IS ALWAYS 1840··· AND HERE I AM ALWAYS THE ABSOLUTE MASTER!
ABSOLUTE MASTER OF··· SLAVES?
NATURALLY, SO LARGE AN ESTABLISHMENT NEEDS MUCH WORK TO KEEP IT UP! PERFORM YOUR DUTIES FAITHFULLY AND···
WE ARE SLAVES OF NO ONE!
WHEN YOU'VE GONE HUNGRY A WHILE, YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MINDS! COOK, A TASTY REPAST FOR MY LOYAL SERVANTS···LET THESE REBELS ENJOY ONLY THE SMELL!
HAW! HAW! WELL SAID, ME LORD!
HE HAS ALL OF US EEN HEES GRIP···EXCEPT ZE GOOD CHOP CHOP!
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? MR. YESTERDAY GAVE CHOP CHOP AS A PRESENT TO MISS DANGER!
7


YOU'RE A COMICAL LITTLE CHAP! YOU'RE LUCKY TO HAVE FALLEN INTO MY HANDS!
WHY YOU TALK SO, MISSEE DANGER?
BECAUSE YOU MAKE ME LAUGH! MR. YESTERDAY IS VERY GENEROUS ... DENIES ME NOTHING ... BUT HE ISN'T A VERY CHEERFUL COMPANION!
CHOP CHOP SEE THAT WITH ONE-HALF EYE! MY LEADER, BLACK-HAWK, MUCH DIFFERENT! HE BIG FIGHTER, BUT HE MAKEE JOKE PLENTY TIME, YOU BET!
I NOTICED HIM! MANY WOMEN HAVE LOVED YOUR BLACKHAWK, NO DOUBT!
OH, PLENTY! THOUSANDS! MILLIONS! LOTSEE PLETTY LADY LOVE BLACKHAWK!
I DO NOT DOUBT IT! AND IT MIGHT BE THAT HE WOULD BE ATTRACTED BY ME!
HOW INTERESTING, MY CHARMING LITTLE BETRAYER!
I TAKE IT YOU'RE DISSATISFIED! BEING QUEEN OF YESTERDAY'S WHOLE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU!
PERHAPS I'D BE HAPPIER AS QUEEN OF TODAY'S WORLD! THE PAST IS IMPRESSIVE ... BUT SOMETIMES I YEARN FOR THE PRESENT!
PAST? PRESENT? I FEAR, MY SWEET DANGER, THAT YOU CAN'T COUNT ON MUCH OF A FUTURE, WITH BLACKHAWK OR ANYONE ELSE!
YOU MEAN YOU'LL DESTROY HIM ... A POWERFUL WORKER LIKE THAT ... OUT OF JEALOUSY?
I'LL DO EXACTLY THAT! THEY'RE IN THE KITCHEN NOW, HUNGRY AS BEARS! PERHAPS I'LL RELENT ... SERVE THEM SUPPER ... WITH DEADLY POISON IN YOUR PRECIOUS BLACKHAWK'S RATIONS!
OH, OH, OH! IS SOUND BAD! ME GO TO KITCHEN, QUICK!

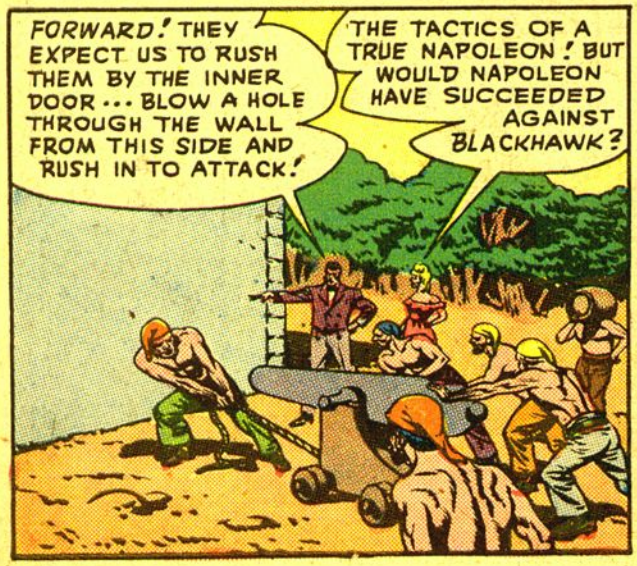

WHY AIN'T YOU BEGGING FOR FOOD? NOT THAT I'D GIVE YOU ANY ... BUT LET'S HEAR YOU BEG!
CHOP CHOP COME JUST IN TIME! ME FIX, MAYBE ...
HEY DOWN THERE, YOU!
YOU TALKEE TO BLACKHAWK LIKEE THAT? YOU STOP QUICK, OR...
SHUT UP, YOU LITTLE YELLOW MONKEY, BEFORE I ROAST YOU IN MY FIRE!
THANKS, CHOP CHOP, FOR ATTRACTING HIS ATTENTION! HE'S THROUGH INSULTING PEOPLE FOR THE TIME BEING!
GAAH... UGH...
CURSE THE LUCK! THIS COOK HASN'T ANY KEYS TO OUR CHAINS!
WE DON'T NEED THEM! HERE'S A FIRE AND YONDER ARE TOOLS!
LET ME SET THIS CHISEL RIGHT, STANISLAUS! NOW THAT YOUR CHAIN IS HEATED....
YA! AY BAN USE DAS HAMMER AND KNOCK YOU LOOSE!
As the Blackhawks are cut free, one by one...
FOLLOW ME, MY MAN! YES, BRING THE POISON!
DON'T BE SURPRISED IF BLACKHAWK FAILS TO TAKE IT... OR DOES TAKE IT AND SURVIVES! HE SEEMS AN EXCEPTIONAL PERSON!
AH, MR. YESTERDAY! WE'LL SHOW OUR GRATITUDE FOR YOUR OLD-FASHIONED HOSPITALITY!
QUICK! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!


THAT'S RIGHT, FASTEN THEM IN! I'LL SUMMON ALL THE MEN FROM WORK! WE'LL DESTROY THESE TROUBLESOME INVADERS!


For the moment, the Blackhawks do not try to struggle from their prison....
DIS CHICKEN ISS NOT VUN HUNDRED YEARS OLD! IT ISS TOO TENDER!
LOOK, BLACKHAWK! THIS BIG CUT-OFF... IT DOESN'T SEEM OUT OF DATE LIKE THE REST OF THE PLACE! IN FACT...


IT'S WHAT CONTROLS THAT VAPOR AROUND THE ISLAND... A GAS THAT MAKES MEN UNCONSCIOUS AND KILLS MOTORS!
WE'LL TURN IT OFF AND GET OUR PLANES FLYING AGAIN!


While, outside...
A BLACK CURSE ON THE PACK OF THEM! THEY'VE FOUND AND TURNED OFF THE VAPOR THAT PROTECTS AND HIDES US! ALREADY IT CLEARS FROM AROUND THE SHORE!
YOU SHOULD BE GLAD! AFTER ALL, THE USE OF GAS IS TWENTIETH CENTURY... JUST WHAT YOU HATE!

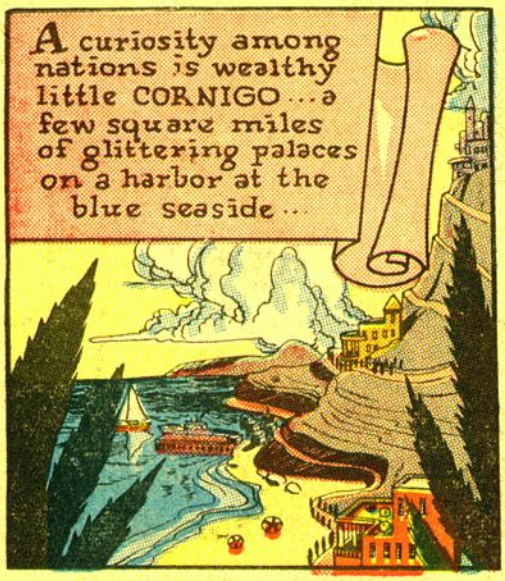

FORWARD! THEY EXPECT US TO RUSH THEM BY THE INNER DOOR... BLOW A HOLE THROUGH THE WALL FROM THIS SIDE AND RUSH IN TO ATTACK!
THE TACTICS OF A TRUE NAPOLEON! BUT WOULD NAPOLEON HAVE SUCCEEDED AGAINST BLACKHAWK?

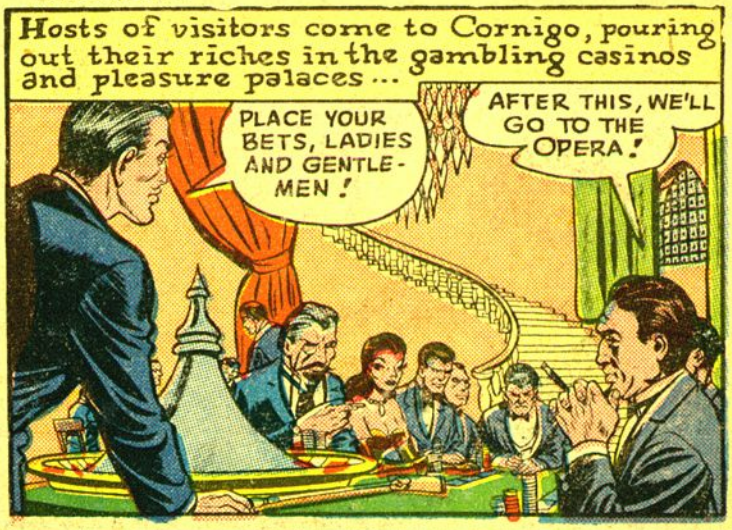

READY TO FIRE!
IN WITH THE SHOT! THEN TOUCH HER OFF!


But the Blackhawks are ever watchful ···
THEY GET LEADY TO SHOOT WITH OLD-TIME CANNON!
BACK TO THE SIDE WALLS AND LET THE SHOT CRASH THROUGH! THEN, WHEN I GIVE THE WORD···
NOW WE'LL RUSH IN AND KILL THOSE WHO SURVIVED!
BOOM!
YOU NEEDN'T RUSH IN! WE'LL COME OUT···
THEY CHASED US AWAY··· CAPTURED THE GUN AND POWDER!
BUT THEY HAVE NO SHOT TO USE AGAINST US! FORM AND CHARGE THEM!
FILL THIS OLD MUZZLE-LOADER WITH OUR BROKEN CHAINS! THEN AIM IT INTO THE THICK OF THEM AND WAIT FOR THEM TO RUSH CLOSE!
FIRE! THEN COUNTER-ATTACK!
YOU WON'T LIVE TO GLOAT OVER ME, BLACKHAWK!
STICK TO YOUR DEAD PAST, MR. YESTERDAY! DON'T FORETELL THE FUTURE!


YOU'RE A WIZARD! YOU'RE A MASTER AT THE ANCIENT ART OF SWORDPLAY!
THAT AND MANY MODERN THINGS, TOO, YESTERDAY!
OUR MASTER IS KILLED! WE SURRENDER!
MA FOI! YOU HAVE ZE INTELLIGENCE! I SPARE YOUR LIFE!
WELL, BLACKHAWK! TO THE VICTORS BELONG THE SPOILS! YOU ARE THE VICTOR!
BUT I DON'T CONSIDER YOU AS SPOILS WORTH TAKING, MISS DANGER! YOU'RE A SPOILED BEAUTY, YES... I'VE SEEN MANY SUCH AND I GET TIRED OF THEM!
YOU ADMIRED YESTERDAY WHEN HE WAS MASTER! NOW YOU WANT TO CHANGE SIDES! IT'S TOO LATE!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
MY FRIENDS ARE DESTROYING THE SYSTEM THAT OPERATES THAT TROUBLESOME VAPOR! THEN WE'RE STARTING UP OUR PLANES AND LEAVING! BETTER GET READY TO RECEIVE OFFICERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY COMMITTEE... WE'LL SEND THEM HERE TO TAKE OVER!
OH, DEAR!
We never shrink away From battle, night or day....
WE'RE BLACKHAWKS!


BLACKHAWK
PARAGON... the man who thought himself perfect! So proud and powerful that he cared nothing for any other living thing, he made humanity his sport and prey..... until he crossed the trail of the BLACKHAWKS!
PLAN X
CURNIGO

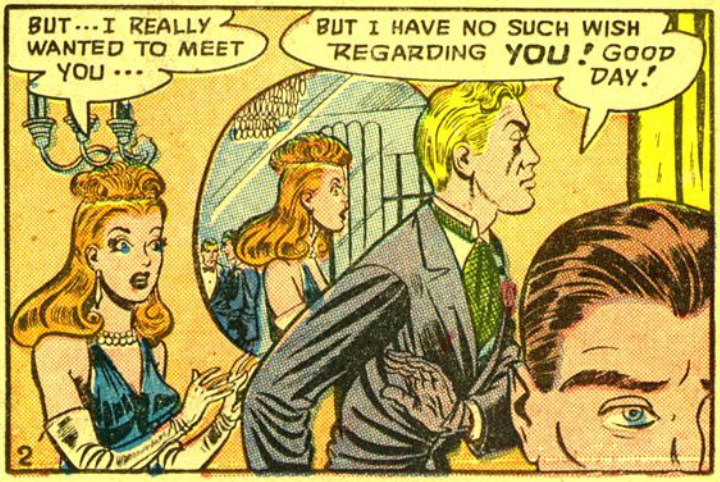

A curiosity among nations is wealthy little CORNIGO ... a few square miles of glittering palaces on a harbor at the blue seaside ...

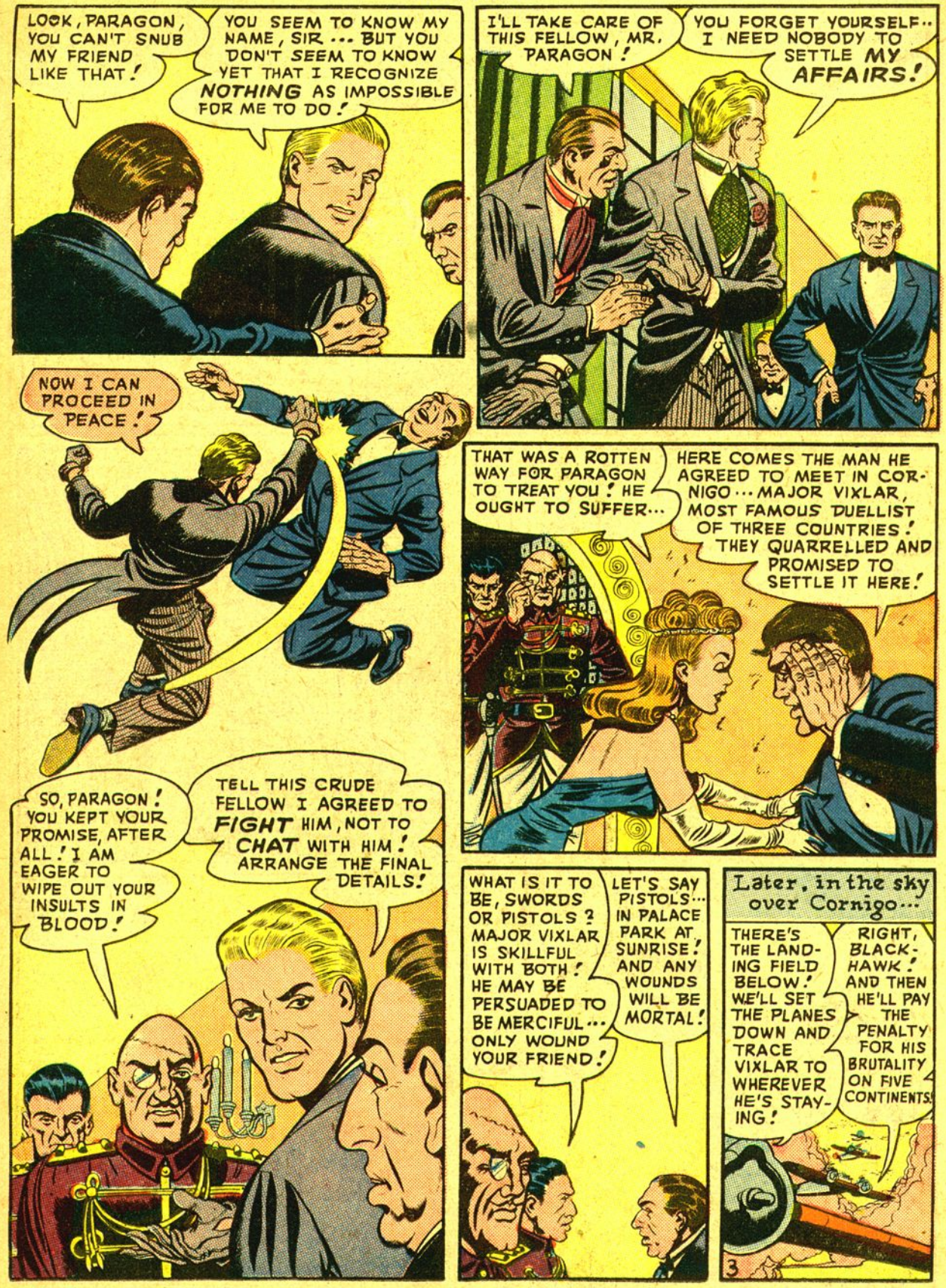

Hosts of visitors come to Cornigo, pouring out their riches in the gambling casinos and pleasure palaces ...
PLACE YOUR BETS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
AFTER THIS, WE'LL GO TO THE OPERA!


But strangest of all matters that draw tourists to Cornigo is an ancient and grim law ...
ANOTHER OF THOSE GROUPS HAS ARRIVED ... WITH MONEY, PLANS, AND WEAPONS!
YES, TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CORNIGO'S FAMOUS CUSTOM ... FIGHTING OF MORTAL DUELS! ENEMIES CAN SETTLE THEIR DIFFERENCES HERE WITH NO TROUBLE AFTERWARD!


LOOK! I KNOW THAT MAN ... EVERYBODY KNOWS HIM! IT'S PARAGON!
HE'S JUST ABOUT THE MOST WONDERFUL MAN EVER HEARD OF! I MUST SPEAK TO HIM!

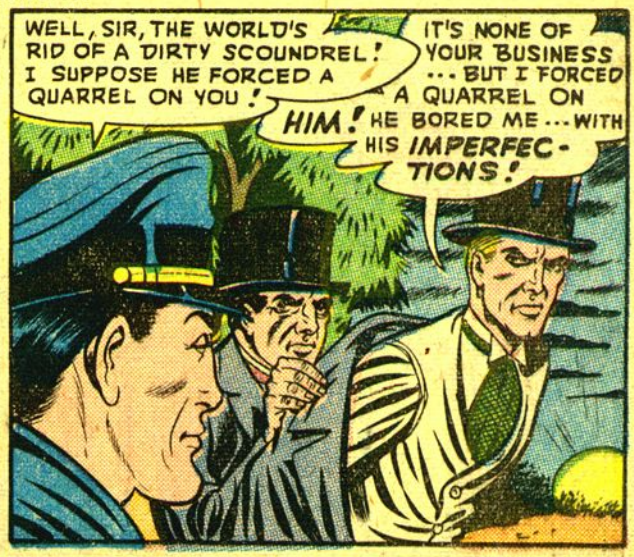

OH, MR. PARAGON! I'VE HEARD ALL ABOUT THE WONDERFUL THINGS YOU DO AND SAY AND THINK ... I FELT I MUST SPEAK TO YOU!
HOW ILL-MANNERED.


BUT ... I REALLY WANTED TO MEET YOU ...
BUT I HAVE NO SUCH WISH REGARDING YOU! GOOD DAY!
2


LOOK, PARAGON, YOU CAN'T SNUB MY FRIEND LIKE THAT!
YOU SEEM TO KNOW MY NAME, SIR ... BUT YOU DON'T SEEM TO KNOW YET THAT I RECOGNIZE NOTHING AS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO DO!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS FELLOW, MR. PARAGON!
YOU FORGET YOURSELF.. I NEED NOBODY TO SETTLE MY AFFAIRS!
NOW I CAN PROCEED IN PEACE!
THAT WAS A ROTTEN WAY FOR PARAGON TO TREAT YOU! HE OUGHT TO SUFFER...
HERE COMES THE MAN HE AGREED TO MEET IN CORNIGO ... MAJOR VIXLAR, MOST FAMOUS DUELLIST OF THREE COUNTRIES! THEY QUARRELLED AND PROMISED TO SETTLE IT HERE!
SO, PARAGON! YOU KEPT YOUR PROMISE, AFTER ALL! I AM EAGER TO WIPE OUT YOUR INSULTS IN BLOOD!
TELL THIS CRUDE FELLOW I AGREED TO FIGHT HIM, NOT TO CHAT WITH HIM! ARRANGE THE FINAL DETAILS!
WHAT IS IT TO BE, SWORDS OR PISTOLS? MAJOR VIXLAR IS SKILLFUL WITH BOTH! HE MAY BE PERSUADED TO BE MERCIFUL ... ONLY WOUND YOUR FRIEND!
LET'S SAY PISTOLS ... IN PALACE PARK AT SUNRISE! AND ANY WOUNDS WILL BE MORTAL!
Later, in the sky over Cornigo...
THERE'S THE LANDING FIELD BELOW! WE'LL SET THE PLANES DOWN AND TRACE VIXLAR TO WHEREVER HE'S STAYING!
RIGHT, BLACKHAWK! AND THEN HE'LL PAY THE PENALTY FOR HIS BRUTALITY ON FIVE CONTINENTS!
3


AH, BLACKHAWK, THIS IS AN HONOR! AND YOU INQUIRE AFTER THE DISTINGUISHED HERO AND SOCIETY FAVORITE, MAJOR VIXLAR?
CORRECTION, IF YOU PLEASE! THE MURDERER AND BULLY, MAJOR VIXLAR! HE SUGGESTED THAT WE MEET HERE! THE CORNIGO DUELLING LAWS SEEM TO APPEAL TO HIS VIOLENT NATURE!
THE MAJOR AND HIS FRIENDS REGISTERED AT THE HOTEL LUXURIO! BUT IT IS LATE... PAST THREE IN THE MORNING!
YOU'RE RIGHT IT'S LATE! THE MAJOR HAS WAITED TOO LONG TO PAY FOR HIS MANY CRIMES AGAINST CIVILIZATION!
But more time elapses before the Blackhawks reach the hotel, where...
MAJOR VIXLAR HAS JUST LEFT FOR PALACE PARK! HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH A MR. PARAGON!
THAT MEANS A DUEL! HE'S ABOUT TO USE HIS MURDERING SKILL TO DESTROY ANOTHER HUMAN BEING!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT! THIS MR. PARAGON SEEMS A VERY CONFIDENT MAN!
THE DUEL HAD BETTER BE STOPPED! COME ON, MEN!
MAKE ZE SPEED, HENDRICKSON! ZE PALACE PARK IS ON ZE HEIGHTS ABOVE ZE HARBOR!
DIS STEEP ROAD GIFS DER SHORT BREATH MIT ME, ANDRE!
THAT GUN! WE'RE TOO LATE!
BANG!
DUEL AT SUNRISE? BUT MR. PARAGON POINTED OUT THERE WAS ENOUGH MOONLIGHT TO DIE BY!
AND HE DIED! MAJOR VIXLAR KILLED HIM?
4


THIS PERSON SEEMS TO BE DECEIVED! IT WAS I WHO KILLED VIXLAR!
VIXLAR, ZE DUELLIST KILLED! C'EST IMPOSSIBLE! BUT EET EES SO!


WELL, SIR, THE WORLD'S RID OF A DIRTY SCOUNDREL! I SUPPOSE HE FORCED A QUARREL ON YOU!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS ... BUT I FORCED A QUARREL ON HIM! HE BORED ME ... WITH HIS IMPERFECTIONS!


I DON'T PROPOSE TO DISCUSS MY BUSINESS WITH COMMON PEOPLE! I HAVE ARRANGED FOR AN EARLY BREAKFAST AND THE NEW ACTIVITY!
PSST, SIR! I'LL SEE YOU LATER ... AT THE HARROVER CAFE! COME ALONE!

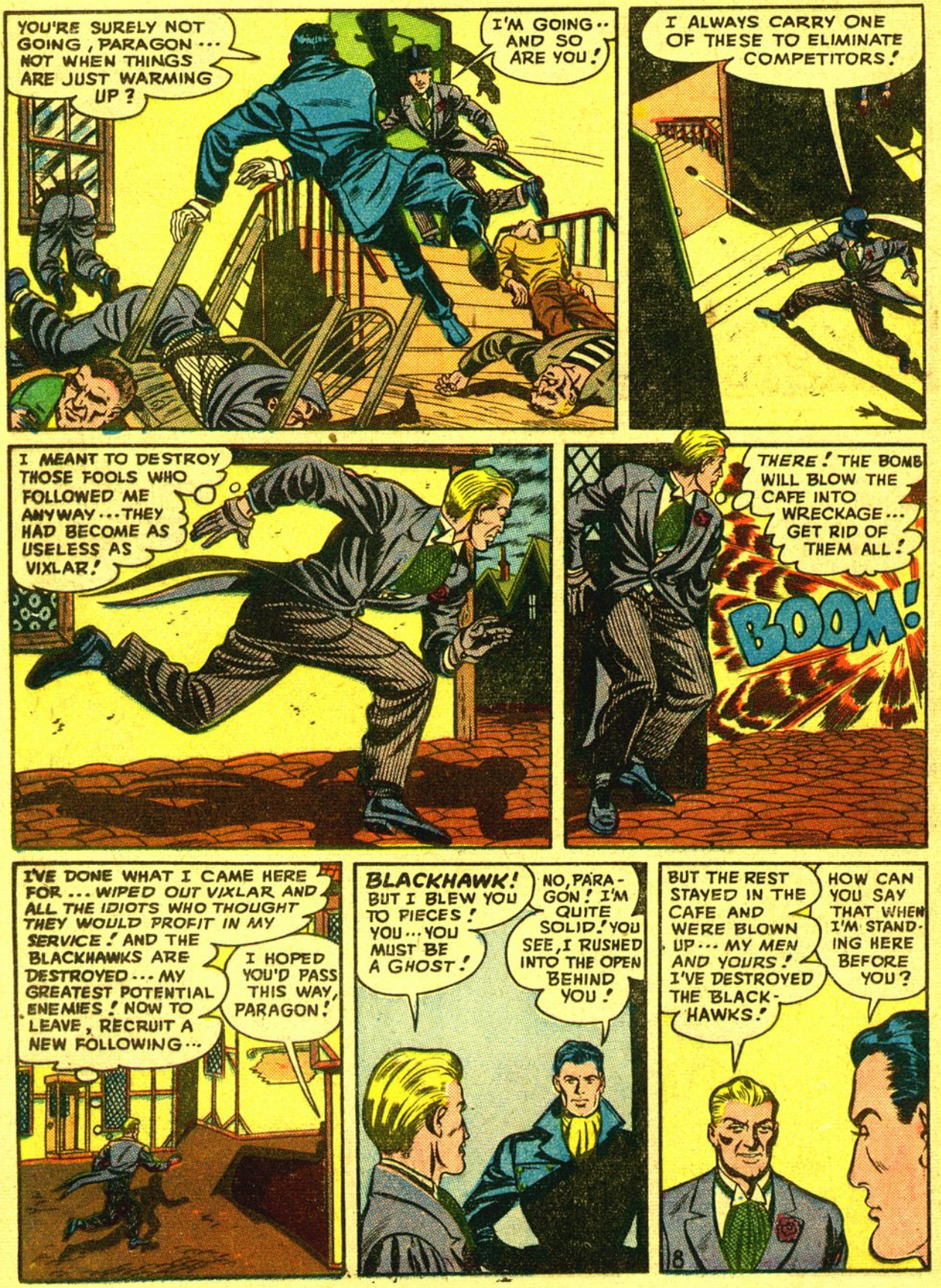

Blackhawk keeps the engagement...
ALL RIGHT, MY FRIEND! WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
ABOUT MAJOR VIXLAR! WHATEVER HIS FAULTS, HE WAS MY FRIEND! AND YOU ARE THE FIRST MAN I'VE MET WHO SEEMS INTERESTED IN JUSTICE BEING DONE!


VIXLAR DID WHAT HE DID ... SO MANY DUELS AND VIOLENCES ... BECAUSE PARAGON PAID HIM TO! WHEN VIXLAR BECAME KNOWN AS A DANGEROUS MAN, HIS VALUE WAS GONE! PARAGON DECIDED TO PUT HIM OUT OF THE WAY!
YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY THAT PARAGON'S A CRIMINAL! HE ACTED LIKE A TOO-PERFECT GENTLEMAN!


THAT'S HIS TROUBLE ... TOO PERFECT! HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF THE FINEST SPECIMEN OF MANKIND EVER BORN! PLUNDERING AND OPPRESSING OTHER MEN IS LIKE SWATTING FLIES TO HIM!
SWATTING FLIES ... OR WORMS, AS I SHALL SWAT YOU, YOU MISERABLE TALE-BEARER!


DESTROY THIS WORM, ONE OF YOU!
THIS EXPLAINS A LOT, PARAGON! MAJOR VIXLAR WAS YOUR LIEUTENANT··· I THOUGHT HE WAS THE INTERNATIONAL BANDIT WHO WAS CAUSING SO MUCH TROUBLE AROUND THE WORLD!
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, OF COURSE! YOU'RE THAT ODD TRIFLER WITH CRIME-SMASHING··· ISN'T YOUR NAME BLACK-HAWK?
THAT NAME WILL DO! WELL, I THOUGHT VIXLAR'S DEATH CLEARED THE FIELD ··· NOW I FIND THE GAME'S JUST BEGINNING! YOUR INTERNATIONAL CRIME COMBINE CAN COLLAPSE ONLY IF ITS HEAD IS DESTROYED!
BUT I AM THE HEAD! NOBODY IN THE WORLD CAN DESTROY ME!
PRIDE GOES BEFORE THE FALL, PARA-GON! AND WHAT A FALL YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE!
COME, BLACKHAWK, WE WASTE TIME! SINCE YOU'RE SO IMPUDENT AS TO THREATEN ME, YOU MUST BE ELIMINATED! THAT INDICATES A DUEL!
AS YOU WISH! AND SINCE YOU CHALLENGE ME, I HAVE THE CHOICE OF WEAPONS!
OF COURSE! BUT WHAT WEAPONS YOU CHOOSE MUST SUIT ALL MY FRIENDS ··· FOR ALL OF US OPPOSE YOU!
IS THAT A FAIR DUEL··· SEVEN AGAINST ONE?
AFTER ALL, MY FRIENDS DEMAND ACTION! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME ALONE INTO SUCH A SERIOUS SITUATION!
WHO SAYS I CAME ALONE?
6


BUT I OVERHEARD THAT JACKAL OF VIXLAR'S MAKE A DATE TO MEET YOU HERE ALONE!
YET MY FRIENDS, LIKE YOURS, INSISTED ON TAGGING ME! MEET ANDRE ... AND THAT'S OLAF ENTERING BEHIND HIM!
YA ... AY BAN OLAF! AND HYAR BAN HENDRICKSON ... AND CHUCK!
BEHIND HIM COME STANISLAUS AND CHOP CHOP!
SEVEN OF US ... SEVEN OF YOU! THAT MAKES IT EVEN! AND FOR WEAPONS WE CHOOSE FISTS!
BUT...
GET THEM, MEN!
DAS BAN SCORE ONE FOR OUR SIDE, BY YIMMINY!
AND THIS IS SCORE TWO!
SCORE THREE!
SCORE FOUR, FIVE, SIX! BLACKHAWKS MAKE VELLY BIG SCORE!


YOU'RE SURELY NOT GOING, PARAGON ··· NOT WHEN THINGS ARE JUST WARMING UP?
I'M GOING·· AND SO ARE YOU!
I ALWAYS CARRY ONE OF THESE TO ELIMINATE COMPETITORS!
I MEANT TO DESTROY THOSE FOOLS WHO FOLLOWED ME ANYWAY···THEY HAD BECOME AS USELESS AS VIXLAR!
THERE! THE BOMB WILL BLOW THE CAFE INTO WRECKAGE··· GET RID OF THEM ALL!
BOOM!
I'VE DONE WHAT I CAME HERE FOR ··· WIPED OUT VIXLAR AND ALL THE IDIOTS WHO THOUGHT THEY WOULD PROFIT IN MY SERVICE! AND THE BLACKHAWKS ARE DESTROYED··· MY GREATEST POTENTIAL ENEMIES! NOW TO LEAVE, RECRUIT A NEW FOLLOWING···
I HOPED YOU'D PASS THIS WAY, PARAGON!
BLACKHAWK! BUT I BLEW YOU TO PIECES! YOU···YOU MUST BE A GHOST!
NO, PARAGON! I'M QUITE SOLID! YOU SEE, I RUSHED INTO THE OPEN BEHIND YOU!
BUT THE REST STAYED IN THE CAFE AND WERE BLOWN UP··· MY MEN AND YOURS! I'VE DESTROYED THE BLACKHAWKS!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT WHEN I'M STANDING HERE BEFORE YOU?


I'LL REMEDY THAT! I'LL DESTROY YOU, TOO!
TRY IT!
NOT A BAD UPPERCUT, FOR AN AMATEUR! IF IT WEREN'T SO EASY TO DUCK, I MIGHT HAVE BEEN SHAKEN A LITTLE!
YOU DARE TO SCOFF AT ME?
TAKE THAT!
YES, YOU WOULD BE DANGEROUS AGAINST SOME MEN, BUT ANY FIRST-CLASS ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE ARTIST WOULD TAKE YOU!
YOU BOAST THAT YOU...
I NEVER CLAIMED TO BE PERFECT! THIS SHOWS THAT YOU AREN'T PERFECT, EITHER!
HERE, LET ME HELP YOU UP! WE'VE GOT QUITE A BIT OF THIS TO GO THROUGH!
NO MAN NEED HELP PARAGON UP!
FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME, YOU'LL DIE!
AS EASY AS THAT, EH?


COME ON, THEN! I'LL GUARD AGAINST YOUR TRICKS THIS TIME! I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S THE GREATEST FIGHTER IN THE WORLD!
SO YOU'RE THE PERFECT MAN! LET'S SEE HOW SOLID YOU ARE HERE ...
AND HERE!
COME DOWN OFF THAT PEDESTAL YOU'VE PUT YOURSELF ON!
HAD ENOUGH? OR DO YOU WANT TO TRY IT ALL OVER AGAIN?
A POLICEMAN!
OFFICER... MY NAME IS PARAGON! THIS MAN IS ASSAULTING ME!
IF YOU'RE PARAGON, THEN I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR MURDER!
ME? ARRESTED - FOR MURDER? DON'T BE ABSURD!

IF YOU LISTEN TO THIS FELLOW'S STUPID STORY, IT'S MY WORD AGAINST HIS!

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, PARAGON! NOT A THING!

IT MUST HAVE BEEN MY FRIENDS WHO INFORMED AGAINST YOU!

MAIS, OUI! ZE COUNTRY OF CORNIGO PERMITS ZE DUEL... BUT NOT ZE MURDER IN COLD BLOOD!

YOU SEE, WE TOSSED YOUR BOMB OUTSIDE THE CAFE! IT EXPLODED HARMLESSLY! I LEFT MY FRIENDS TO LEAD YOUR BEATEN FOLLOWERS TO THE POLICE WHILE I TRAILED YOU!

BUT IF THE BOMB WAS THROWN OUT, *NOBODY* WAS KILLED! HOW CAN I BE A MURDERER?

PARAGON, THE PERFECT MAN, SEEMS TO HAVE A DEFECTIVE MEMORY! HE FORGETS ORDERING THE DEATH OF MAJOR VIXLAR'S AIDE... THE ONE HE CALLED A WORM!

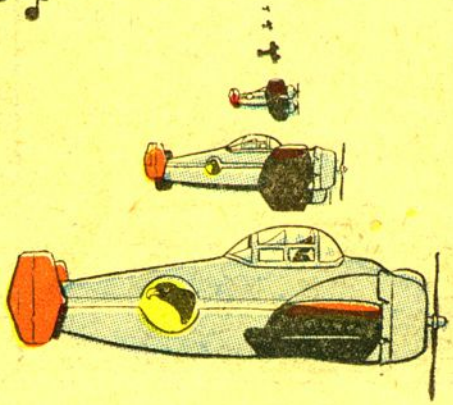
COME WITH ME, PARAGON!

Later, a conference with a high official of Cornigo...

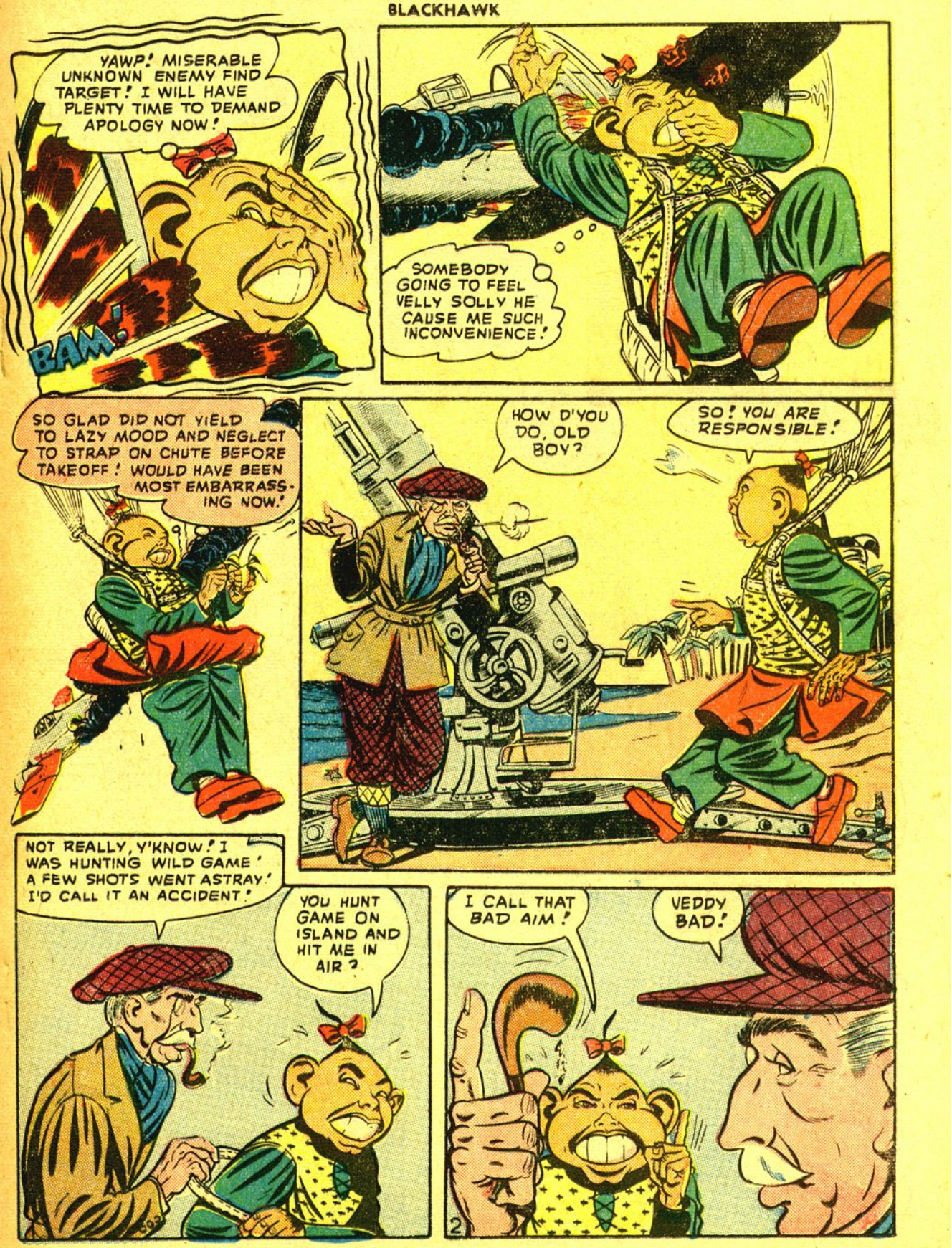
YOU'VE DONE A SERVICE TO US AND THE WORLD AT LARGE, BLACKHAWK! WILL YOU REMAIN AS GUESTS OF OUR COUNTRY?

PARAGON'S ACCOMPLICES ARE READY TO TESTIFY AGAINST HIM, YOUR EXCELLENCY! AND WE... WE HAVE THINGS TO DO ELSEWHERE!

This fight beat fear and sorrow...
We fight again tomorrow...
WE'RE BLACKHAWKS!

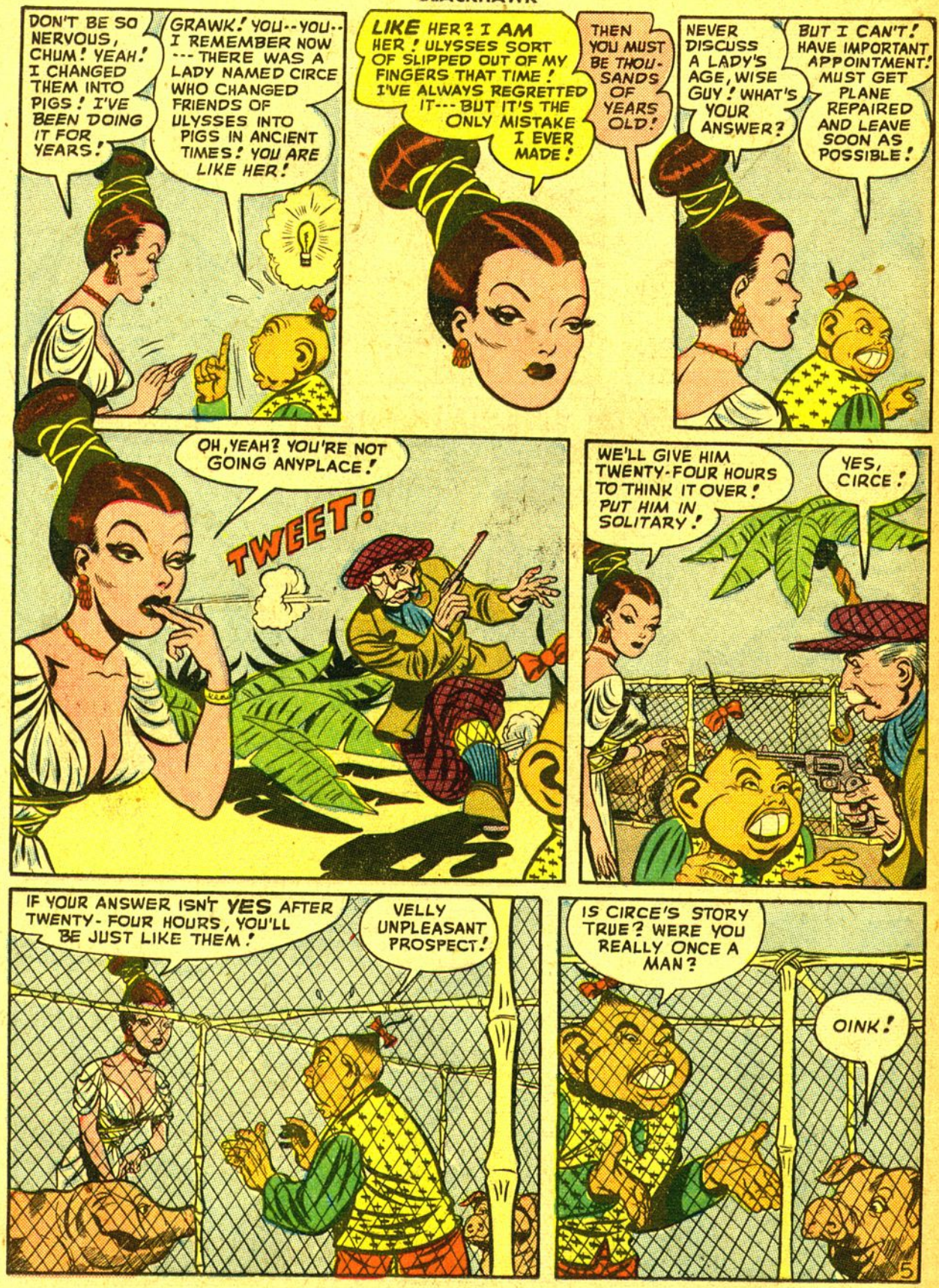


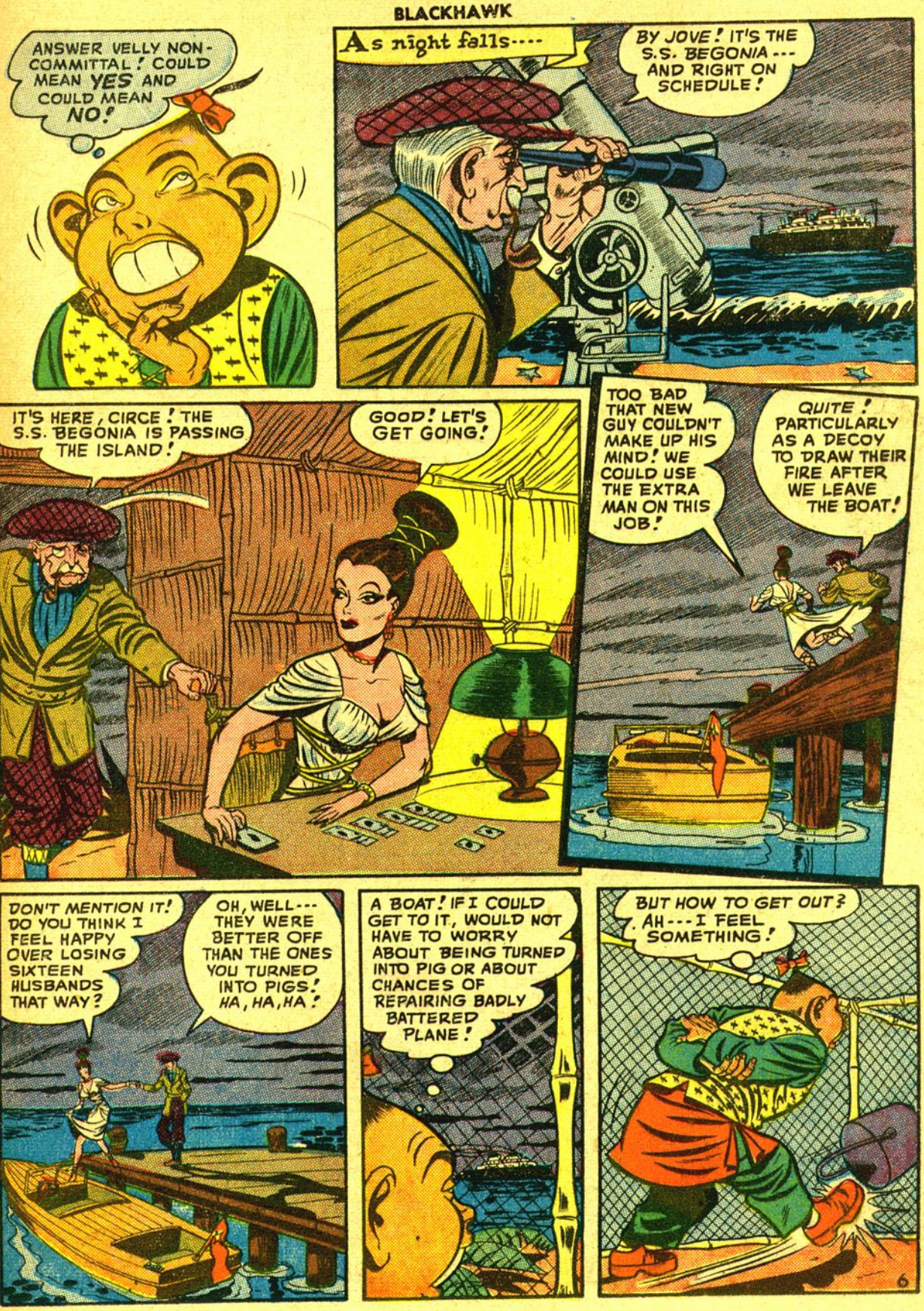

CHOP CHOP
CIRCE'S HUSBANDS ARE SO DEVOTED TO HER!
PERHAPS BETTER BE DEVOTED THAN BE HAM SANDWICHES!
VELLY LATE FOR RENDEZVOUS WITH BLACKHAWKS! MUST GIVE HER THE GUN!
SOMEBODY SHOOTING AT ME FROM ISLAND! VELLY UNFRIENDLY! BUT I HAVE NO TIME TO DEMAND APOLOGY!
BANG!
BANG


YAWP! MISERABLE UNKNOWN ENEMY FIND TARGET! I WILL HAVE PLENTY TIME TO DEMAND APOLOGY NOW!
BAM!
SOMEBODY GOING TO FEEL VELLY SOLLY HE CAUSE ME SUCH INCONVENIENCE!
SO GLAD DID NOT YIELD TO LAZY MOOD AND NEGLECT TO STRAP ON CHUTE BEFORE TAKEOFF! WOULD HAVE BEEN MOST EMBARRASSING NOW!
HOW D'YOU DO, OLD BOY?
SO! YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!
NOT REALLY, Y'KNOW! I WAS HUNTING WILD GAME! A FEW SHOTS WENT ASTRAY! I'D CALL IT AN ACCIDENT!
YOU HUNT GAME ON ISLAND AND HIT ME IN AIR?
I CALL THAT BAD AIM!
VEDDY BAD!

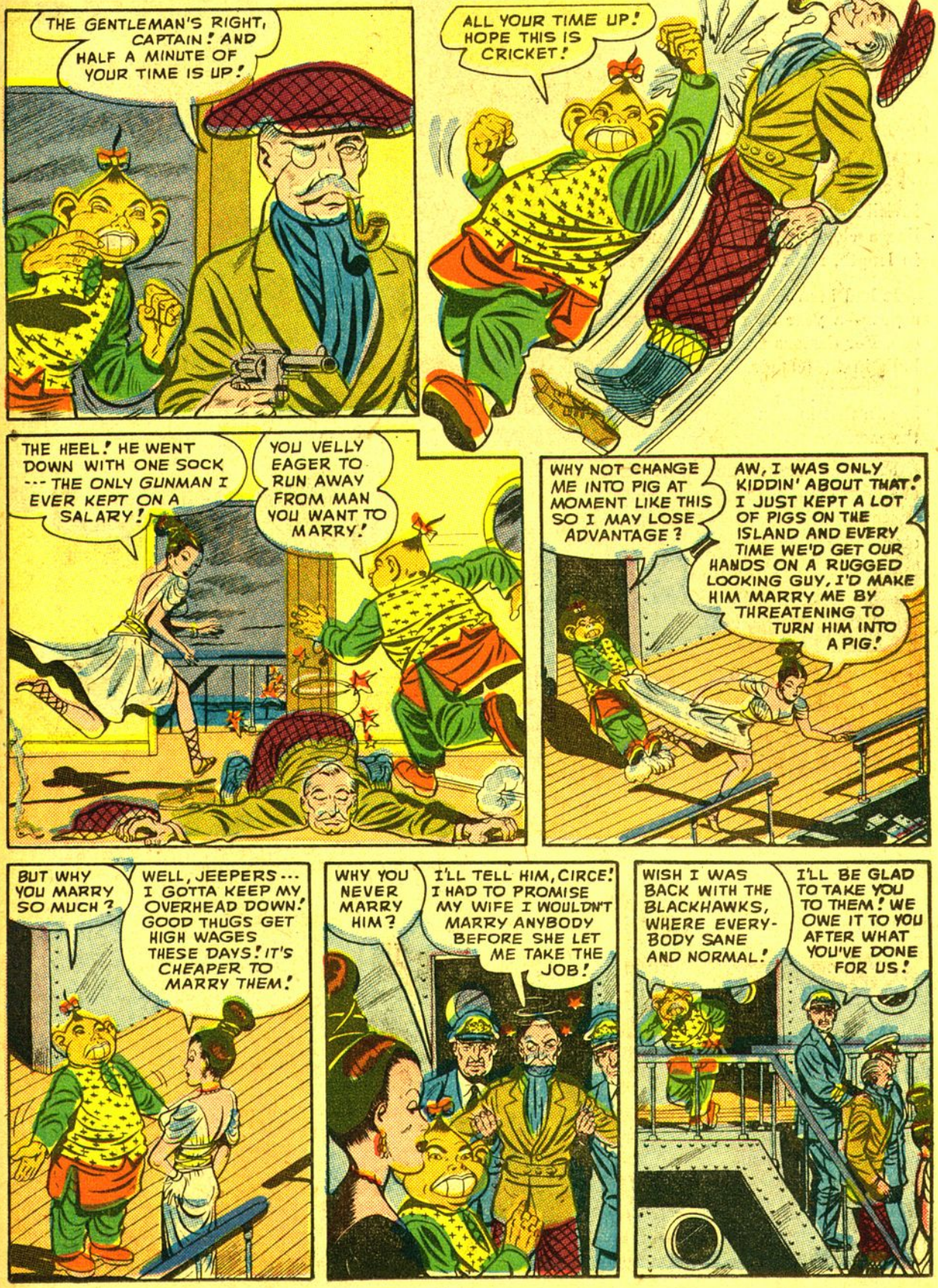

AND PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU HUNT GAME WITH ACK-ACK GUN?
GLADLY! THE ANIMALS ARE SO SURPRISED AT BEING SHOT AT WITH SO UNUSUAL A WEAPON THAT THEY FORGET TO RUN!
MUST BE VELLY UNINTELLIGENT ANIMALS ON THIS ISLAND! BESIDES, YOUR TACTICS MOST UNFAIR!
SIR, ARE YOU INSINUATING THAT IT'S NOT CRICKET?
MAYBE CRICKET BUT VELLY DIRTY DEAL FOR ANIMALS! ALSO FOR ME!
AH, WELL--- SO LONG AS IT'S CRICKET, EH? NOW, HOW ABOUT COMING OVER TO CIRCE'S FOR A SPOT OF TEA?
CIRCE'S?
YES! CHARMING GIRL! SHE'LL BE DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU!
SOLLY! MUST DECLINE INVITATION! MUST SEE IF CAN PATCH UP PLANE! HAVE IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT!
BUT NOBODY DECLINES AN INVITATION TO CIRCE'S, OLD CHAP!
SEE WHAT YOU MEAN--- BUT CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANNERS UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES!
LOOKS LIKE PIG FARM! CAN WOMAN WHO RAISES PIGS ALSO BE CHARMING?
CIRCE IS A RATHER UNUSUAL WOMAN!
3


I'VE BROUGHT A GUEST, CIRCE!
HMMM! HE'S CUTE! GOOD!
YEP! I'LL MARRY HIM!
HUH?
GULP! CHOP CHOP NOT USED TO BEING RUSHED INTO MARRIAGE SO ABRUPTLY!
OH, YOU'RE NOT, EH? C'MON, PAL! LET ME SHOW YOU AROUND BEFORE YOU SAY ANY MORE!
SEE THOSE GUYS?
GUYS? YOU MEAN PIGS?
PIGS NOW! THEY USED TO BE GUYS! BUT SOME OF THEM TOOK TOO LONG ABOUT ANSWERING WHEN I PROPOSED MARRIAGE AND SOME OF THEM DIDN'T TURN OUT TO BE THE KIND OF HUSBANDS I BARGAINED FOR!
SO--- YOU MEAN, YOU---?


DON'T BE SO NERVOUS, CHUM! YEAH! I CHANGED THEM INTO PIGS! I'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR YEARS!
GRAWK! YOU--YOU-- I REMEMBER NOW --- THERE WAS A LADY NAMED CIRCE WHO CHANGED FRIENDS OF ULYSSES INTO PIGS IN ANCIENT TIMES! YOU ARE LIKE HER!
LIKE HER? I AM HER! ULYSSES SORT OF SLIPPED OUT OF MY FINGERS THAT TIME! I'VE ALWAYS REGRETTED IT--- BUT IT'S THE ONLY MISTAKE I EVER MADE!
THEN YOU MUST BE THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD!
NEVER DISCUSS A LADY'S AGE, WISE GUY! WHAT'S YOUR ANSWER?
BUT I CAN'T! HAVE IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT! MUST GET PLANE REPAIRED AND LEAVE SOON AS POSSIBLE!
OH, YEAH? YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYPLACE!
TWEET!
WE'LL GIVE HIM TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO THINK IT OVER! PUT HIM IN SOLITARY!
YES, CIRCE!
IF YOUR ANSWER ISN'T YES AFTER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, YOU'LL BE JUST LIKE THEM!
VELLY UNPLEASANT PROSPECT!
IS CIRCE'S STORY TRUE? WERE YOU REALLY ONCE A MAN?
OINK!


ANSWER VELLY NON-COMMITTAL! COULD MEAN YES AND COULD MEAN NO!
As night falls----
BY JOVE! IT'S THE S.S. BEGONIA --- AND RIGHT ON SCHEDULE!
IT'S HERE, CIRCE! THE S.S. BEGONIA IS PASSING THE ISLAND!
GOOD! LET'S GET GOING!
TOO BAD THAT NEW GUY COULDN'T MAKE UP HIS MIND! WE COULD USE THE EXTRA MAN ON THIS JOB!
QUITE! PARTICULARLY AS A DECOY TO DRAW THEIR FIRE AFTER WE LEAVE THE BOAT!
DON'T MENTION IT! DO YOU THINK I FEEL HAPPY OVER LOSING SIXTEEN HUSBANDS THAT WAY?
OH, WELL--- THEY WERE BETTER OFF THAN THE ONES YOU TURNED INTO PIGS! HA, HA, HA!
A BOAT! IF I COULD GET TO IT, WOULD NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BEING TURNED INTO PIG OR ABOUT CHANCES OF REPAIRING BADLY BATTERED PLANE!
BUT HOW TO GET OUT? AH--- I FEEL SOMETHING!
6


WORRY SO MUCH ABOUT BECOMING PIG, I FORGET I STILL CARRY TRUSTY WEAPON!
WILL SWIM TO BOAT!
WILL IT HOOK?
I NEVER MISSED BEFORE!
S.S. BEGONIA
LOOK LIKE MY CAPTORS! WONDER WHAT THEY DO HERE?
WILL SOON FIND OUT!
HELLO, CAPTAIN! YOU HAVE THREE MINUTES TO GO BELOW AND BRING BACK THE TWO MILLION BUCKS WE KNOW YOU'RE CARRYING!
GULP! IT'S PIRACY! IT'S A HOLDUP!
IT COULD EVEN BE MURDER, IF YOU DON'T HURRY!
SHE MEANS IT, TOO! I'VE HEARD ABOUT HER BUT I NEVER BELIEVED IT! SHE'S KNOWN AS CIRCE AND SHE PREYS ON SHIPS THAT PLY THESE WATERS! SHE GETS HER INFORMATION FROM CONFEDERATES IN VARIOUS PORTS!


THE GENTLEMAN'S RIGHT, CAPTAIN! AND HALF A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME IS UP!
ALL YOUR TIME UP! HOPE THIS IS CRICKET!
THE HEEL! HE WENT DOWN WITH ONE SOCK --- THE ONLY GUNMAN I EVER KEPT ON A SALARY!
YOU VELLY EAGER TO RUN AWAY FROM MAN YOU WANT TO MARRY!
WHY NOT CHANGE ME INTO PIG AT MOMENT LIKE THIS SO I MAY LOSE ADVANTAGE?
AW, I WAS ONLY KIDDIN' ABOUT THAT! I JUST KEPT A LOT OF PIGS ON THE ISLAND AND EVERY TIME WE'D GET OUR HANDS ON A RUGGED LOOKING GUY, I'D MAKE HIM MARRY ME BY THREATENING TO TURN HIM INTO A PIG!
BUT WHY YOU MARRY SO MUCH?
WELL, JEEPERS --- I GOTTA KEEP MY OVERHEAD DOWN! GOOD THUGS GET HIGH WAGES THESE DAYS! IT'S CHEAPER TO MARRY THEM!
WHY YOU NEVER MARRY HIM?
I'LL TELL HIM, CIRCE! I HAD TO PROMISE MY WIFE I WOULDN'T MARRY ANYBODY BEFORE SHE LET ME TAKE THE JOB!
WISH I WAS BACK WITH THE BLACKHAWKS, WHERE EVERYBODY SANE AND NORMAL!
I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE YOU TO THEM! WE OWE IT TO YOU AFTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR US!

BLACKHAWK

SKY THIEF

THE huge dirigible, drifting soundlessly, circled so high over a patch of ocean that it was invisible below. In color it was a sombre gray, like a cloudy sky. More than a thousand feet in length, it was thick in proportion.

It had been cruising the world for more than a year—a year of unutterable terror to everyone. For demons from Hades rode that ominous bulk in the clouds. No one had ever seen the creatures who peopled the dirigible; it was only known that human agency was at the controls of the monster.

From whence it came, where it anchored, no one knew; and the armies of the world had been on the prowl ever since its depredations began shocking the earth's peoples.

Inside the control room of the dirigible sat a heavy-set man with a permanent scowl on his florid face. He was studying some maps. After a moment he looked up.

"Heinie," he said, "we're going to forget that other business; it's not worth the chance."

"What chance do we run, Captain?" said Heinie. "Who can stop us?"

"Probably no one," rumbled the skipper. "But nevertheless we're going to skip that little job. What's a million or so when there are fifty million to be had just as easily?"

"Fifty million!" gasped Heinie, who sat at the big ship's controls "Where, sir?"

Captain Franz Blok chuckled "Right about this time it will be stored in a certain basement vault on Wall Street. At three o'clock tomorrow afternoon, a steel truck will haul it to the Pennsylvania Station About three fifteen it will—shall we say—vanish? Poof!"

The fat captain leaned back in his chair and laughed until his several chins threatened to become one. "What fools we have to deal with! Oh, how I have tricked them!"

Heinie grinned uncertainly It was well to humor the big boss. He had been skipper on a certain famous ship before the war He was the inventor of the monstrous device that caused loaded money trucks to vanish from the earth. He had been piling up billions in stolen gold during the long career of the big dirigible.

"At three fifteen, Heinie, tomorrow. Now you just keep her on a circling course at 35,000. I think I take a nap, yes."

At three o'clock the following afternoon, the dirigible was streaking west over New York Harbor. Its altimeter stood at 29,000 feet. Noiseless and perfectly invisible from below, it was a menace that would strike without anyone's knowing when or where

Heinie crouched at the control panel watching into the telescreen. The panorama below, magnified several hundred times, was sharp and clear. He saw them slide over banks of massive buildings, over crowded streets, over parks. And then they were over the objective.

Capt. Blok was looking now too. He nudged Heinie. "All right, stop her and lower away!"

The giant dirigible halted in midair and a soft clacking of gears was heard in the control room. Capt. Blok and Heinie watched intently in the telescreen. They saw the armored truck scooting along the street far below. Then suddenly the truck came to an abrupt stop. In fact it stopped so fast that the driver was almost thrown through the windshield.

"Now!" whispered Capt. Blok.

And then before the amazed eyes of hundreds of people, the steel truck vanished.

A few minutes later, through an enormous trap door in the bottom of the dirigible, the truck came. The driver, cut by flying glass was dead, two guards in the rear were both out cold.

"Drop 'em into the sea," said Capt. Blok. To a gang of coveralled men, he said, "Open it. Store the gold, then drop the truck in the Atlantic!"

As simple as that.

The newspapers that night carried the story. It was just another in the strange series of mys-

terious thefts of gold trucks. This one had been more spectacular, since 50 million in gold had disappeared in broad daylight. The presses of the entire world clattered with the amazing story. And every law-enforcing agency was on the alert. But they didn't have a chance. They didn't know what to look for, or where to look.

Chuck, an American member of the Blackhawks, read the teletype as it came into the office on fabulous Blackhawk Island.

"Another one," he said. "And this time a big one. Wow, fifty million bucks!"

Blackhawk, the leader, stood looking at the flashing strip. He scratched his head.

"I'd give anything to know who's doing those jobs—how they are doing them."

"Spirits do same," said Chop Chop, the little Chinese who lent a touch of humor to the group. "Mebbeso angly ancestors come back, not likee lich man have too much gold."

A laugh went up.

Hendrickson, the big Dutch engineer, rubbed his heavy brow with a smudged fist. "We know one t'ing. The trucks go opp; cameras have caught that. Den if they go opp, somet'ing is opp there pulling them opp."

The Frenchman, Andre, said, "You think maybe eet ees a plane, Hendrickson? Then how come the radar she does not locate thees plane?"

Hendrickson nodded gloomily. "Thass right."

"If the plane was propelled by compressed air," said Stanislaus, who hailed from some tiny Balkan country, "radar wouldn't pick it up."

"Ah, but that's out," said Chuck. "Air is out, I mean. Even if it was a jet job, radar would spot it. And sure as heck it ain't a glider!"

Blackhawk shook his head. "I wonder if it is a dirigible?"

Chuck laughed. "Good guess, Blackhawk, but what makes it run? Not air."

"No, not air, Chuck. But how about steam?"

The mens' faces took on a new expression. They had heard, of course, about the British plane that flew on steam. Then there had been years in several countries when steam drove many automobiles. Why not a steam dirigible?

"That is something to theenk about," said Andre.

Blackhawk moved toward the door. "Let's take a quick flight east, boys, and see if we can learn anything more."

They all filed out of the room and down a long ramp. The ramp ended in an underground room of vast size. Here was stored several planes of unique design, all of them built for great speed. Blackhawk led the way to a big one, which they knew to be heavily armed with the latest in known and secret weapons. They piled aboard.

"We're going to get whoever is doing these jobs," said Blackhawk calmly.

"Just like that, eh, boss?" grinned Chuck. "We're all with you."

In a few hours the Blackhawks' plane was high over New York; then it fled out over the ocean one—two—three hundred miles. At five hundred, Blackhawk pointed to the viewfinder. On it from top to bottom was a tiny thread-like line, wavering back and forth. They were flying at 15,000.

"Drop down," ordered Blackhawk. At five thousand, they saw the ship below, a small freighter. The line came out of the clouds, ending on the ship's deck.

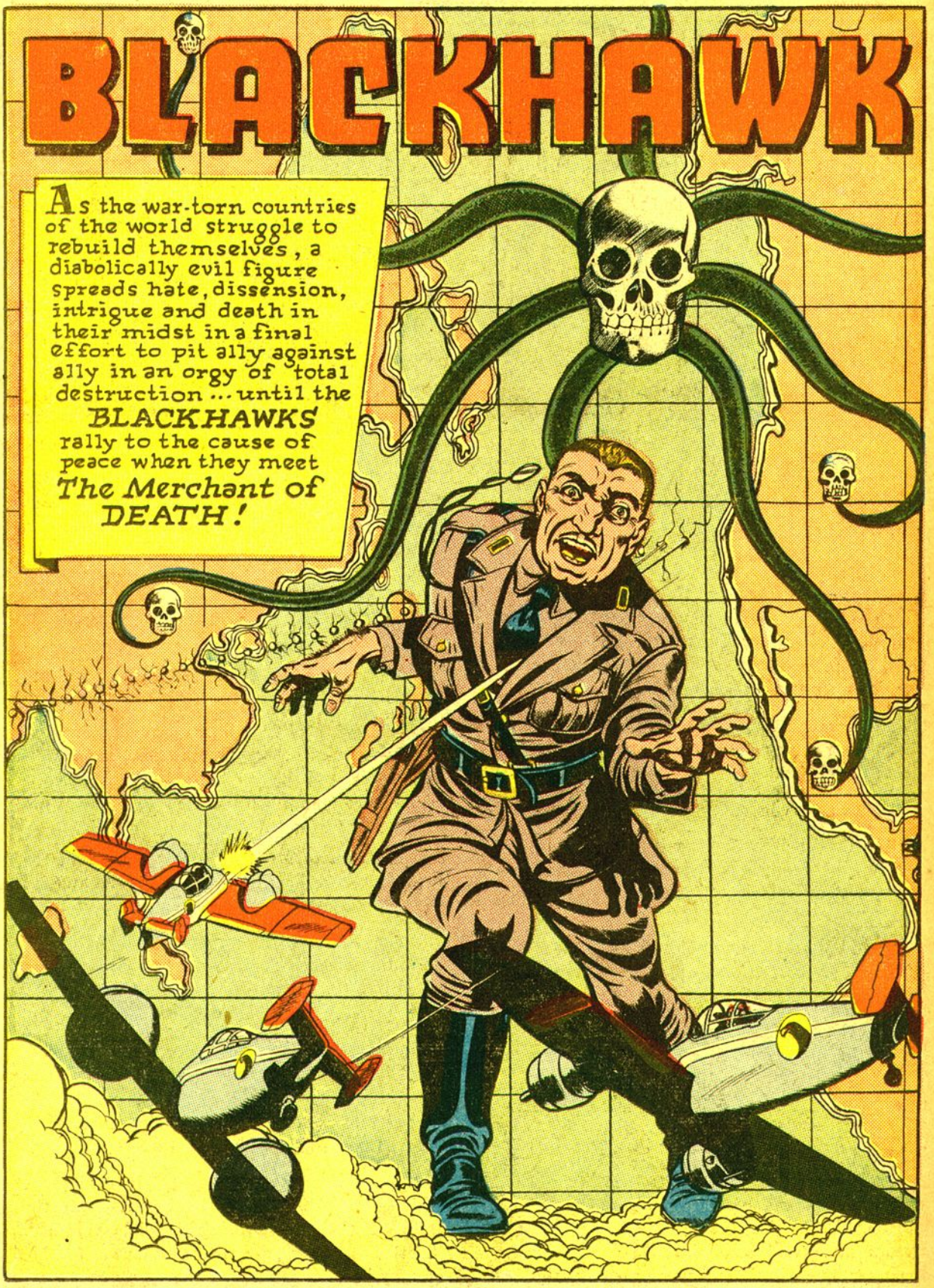
Blackhawk nodded. "Like I thought," he said. "Loading the loot on that freighter. If we wait we can see the line go up, and perhaps see it come down again with a rich cargo. But we aren't going to wait."

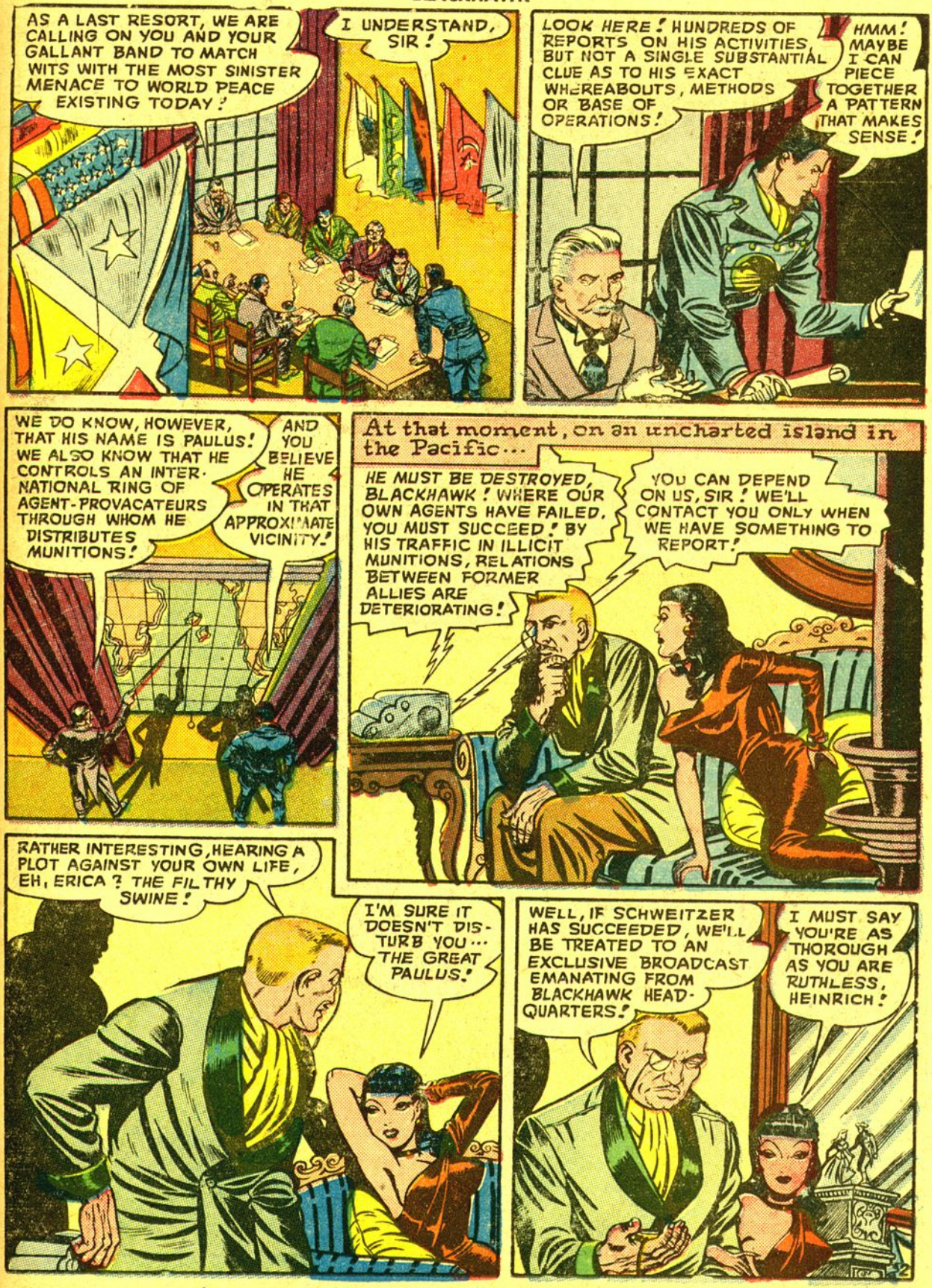
Blackhawk turned to Andre. "Break out the little ship. Go down and gas that freighter, so she will stay put. We'll go upstairs."

When Andre had taken off through a wide port, the Blackhawk plane turned nose up and bored into the sky at enormous speed. At 60,000, they leveled off and looked below.

Blackhawk chuckled. "There she is, boys! A nice dirigible, with a steam powerplane so there is no electricity needed for radar to spot. We'll assume that her cargo is now aboard the freighter. . . Chuck, man the bombs!"

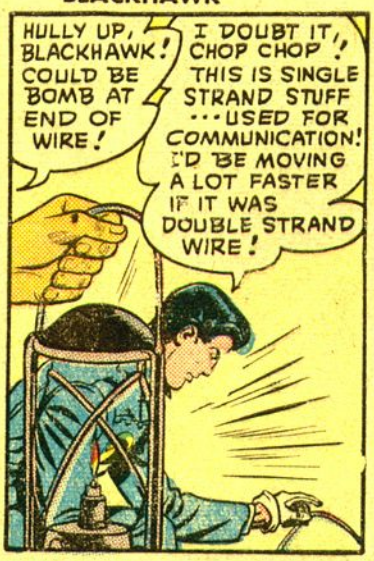
A few seconds after the bombs had gone, there was a blinding flash below. Both the freightes and the hovering dirigible vanished. "Better that way, gone without a clue as to who, or why."


BLACKHAWK
As the war-torn countries of the world struggle to rebuild themselves, a diabolically evil figure spreads hate, dissension, intrigue and death in their midst in a final effort to pit ally against ally in an orgy of total destruction ... until the BLACKHAWKS rally to the cause of peace when they meet The Merchant of DEATH!

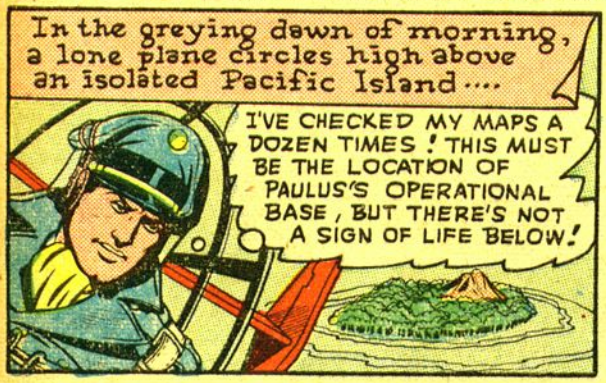

AS A LAST RESORT, WE ARE CALLING ON YOU AND YOUR GALLANT BAND TO MATCH WITS WITH THE MOST SINISTER MENACE TO WORLD PEACE EXISTING TODAY!
I UNDERSTAND, SIR!
LOOK HERE! HUNDREDS OF REPORTS ON HIS ACTIVITIES, BUT NOT A SINGLE SUBSTANTIAL CLUE AS TO HIS EXACT WHEREABOUTS, METHODS OR BASE OF OPERATIONS!
HMM! MAYBE I CAN PIECE TOGETHER A PATTERN THAT MAKES SENSE!
WE DO KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT HIS NAME IS PAULUS! WE ALSO KNOW THAT HE CONTROLS AN INTERNATIONAL RING OF AGENT-PROVACATEURS THROUGH WHOM HE DISTRIBUTES MUNITIONS!
AND YOU BELIEVE HE OPERATES IN THAT APPROXIMATE VICINITY!
At that moment, on an uncharted island in the Pacific...
HE MUST BE DESTROYED, BLACKHAWK! WHERE OUR OWN AGENTS HAVE FAILED, YOU MUST SUCCEED! BY HIS TRAFFIC IN ILLICIT MUNITIONS, RELATIONS BETWEEN FORMER ALLIES ARE DETERIORATING!
YOU CAN DEPEND ON US, SIR! WE'LL CONTACT YOU ONLY WHEN WE HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT!
RATHER INTERESTING, HEARING A PLOT AGAINST YOUR OWN LIFE, EH, ERICA? THE FILTHY SWINE!
I'M SURE IT DOESN'T DISTURB YOU... THE GREAT PAULUS!
WELL, IF SCHWEITZER HAS SUCCEEDED, WE'LL BE TREATED TO AN EXCLUSIVE BROADCAST EMANATING FROM BLACKHAWK HEADQUARTERS!
I MUST SAY YOU'RE AS THOROUGH AS YOU ARE RUTHLESS, HEINRICH!


At the secret rendezvous on Blackhawk Island....
ON YOUR TOES, MEN! THIS TIME WE'RE AFTER DANGEROUS GAME! OUR WITS AND STRENGTH AGAINST THAT OF A WILY ENEMY!
SACRE BLEU! SUCH TALK MAKES MY HEART BEAT FASTER!
TELL US MORE!
OUR MISSION WILL CARRY US TO AN ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC! WE HAVE LITTLE INFORMATION TO GO BY, BUT I HAVE A FEW REPORTS FROM WHICH WE CAN PIECE TOGETHER OUR STRATEGY!
VE HAFF WORKED WITH LESS IN THE PAST!
THE ENEMY IS HEINRICH PAULUS, A TRAFFICKER IN CONTRABAND MUNITIONS! HIS BASE IS SUPPOSED TO BE...
PSST! ATTENDEZ! I HEARD A SOUND BY ZE DOOR!
NOM D'UN CHIEN! EEF SOMEONE EES EAVES-DROPPING, I WEEL...
TAKE LANTERNS AND SPREAD OUT AS WE GET OUTSIDE!
A THOUSAND DEVILS! EET EES DARK.... UGH!
UNH! SCHWEIN-HUND!
TOO LATE TO GIVE CHASE IN THE DARK! TAKE CARE OF ANDRE WHILE I LOOK AROUND!
OH, MY HEAD! I DESERVE EET FOR NOT BEING MORE CARE-FUL!
3


LOOKEE! ME FIND SOMETHING LOOKEE VELLY SUSPICIOUS!
LET ME SEE, CHOP CHOP!


HULLY UP, BLACKHAWK! COULD BE BOMB AT END OF WIRE!
I DOUBT IT, CHOP CHOP! THIS IS SINGLE STRAND STUFF ···USED FOR COMMUNICATION! I'D BE MOVING A LOT FASTER IF IT WAS DOUBLE STRAND WIRE!

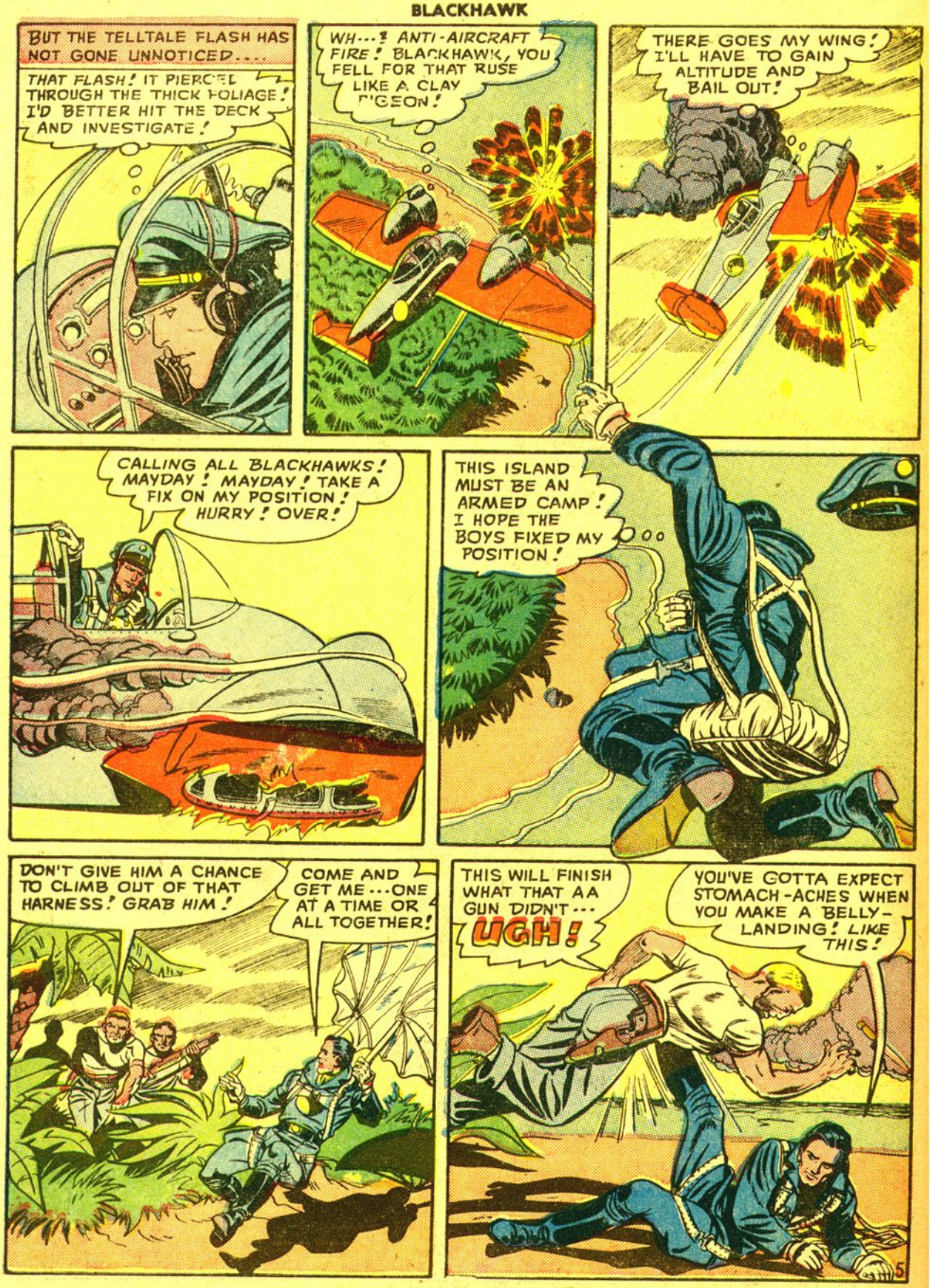

A DICTAPHONE ··· PROBABLY CONNECTED TO A HIDDEN TRANSMITTER! EVERY WORD WE'VE SPOKEN HAS BEEN OVERHEARD ···YOU KNOW BY WHOM!
SAY! AY BAN GET GOOD IDEA! WE MAKE SPECIAL BROADCAST··· BUT WE BAN GIVE PHONY PLANS!


In the greying dawn of morning, a lone plane circles high above an isolated Pacific Island····
I'VE CHECKED MY MAPS A DOZEN TIMES! THIS MUST BE THE LOCATION OF PAULUS'S OPERATIONAL BASE, BUT THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF LIFE BELOW!


Below, the apparently lifeless island becomes a bee-hive of sinister activity..
BATTERY K REPORTING! UNIDENTIFIED PLANE CIRCLING OVERHEAD ···ALTITUDE FOUR THOUSAND FEET! ANY ORDERS?

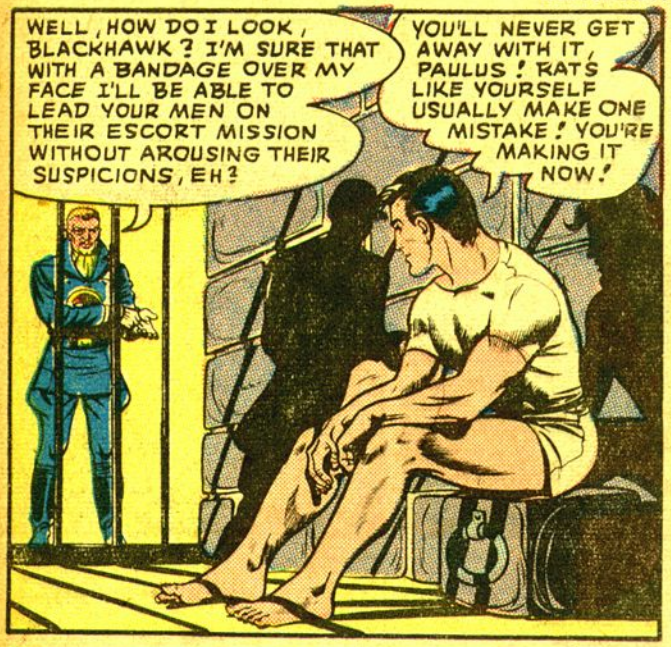

EXCELLENT! NOW LISTEN CLOSELY! HE WILL PROBABLY DESCEND TO OBSERVE AT CLOSE RANGE! LET HIM COME WITHIN POINT-BLANK RANGE···· THEN SHOOT TO KILL!
WOULDN'T IT BE WISER TO ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE HIM ALIVE, HEINRICH?


YOU FOOL! THE SUN MAY REFLECT IN THAT CURSED MIRROR! DO YOU WANT TO DESTOY MY PLANS COMPLETELY?
B-BUT, HEINRICH···

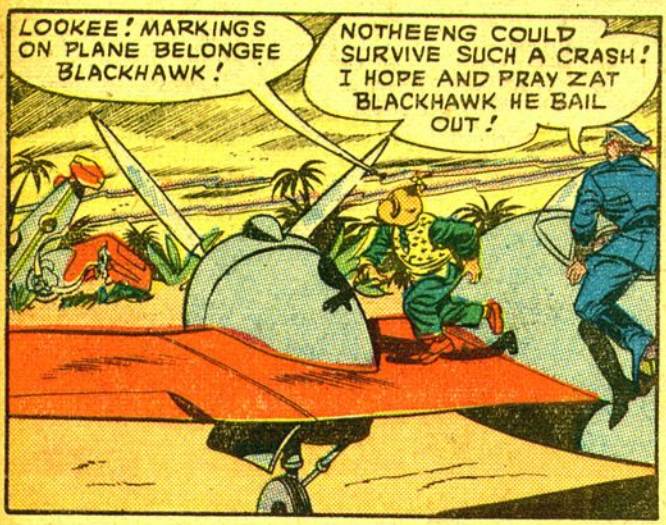

BUT THE TELLTALE FLASH HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED....
THAT FLASH! IT PIERCED THROUGH THE THICK FOLIAGE! I'D BETTER HIT THE DECK AND INVESTIGATE!
WH---? ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE! BLACKHAWK, YOU FELL FOR THAT RUSE LIKE A CLAY PIGEON!
THERE GOES MY WING! I'LL HAVE TO GAIN ALTITUDE AND BAIL OUT!
CALLING ALL BLACKHAWKS! MAYDAY! MAYDAY! TAKE A FIX ON MY POSITION! HURRY! OVER!
THIS ISLAND MUST BE AN ARMED CAMP! I HOPE THE BOYS FIXED MY POSITION!
DON'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO CLIMB OUT OF THAT HARNESS! GRAB HIM!
COME AND GET ME---ONE AT A TIME OR ALL TOGETHER!
THIS WILL FINISH WHAT THAT AA GUN DIDN'T---
UGH!
YOU'VE GOTTA EXPECT STOMACH-ACHES WHEN YOU MAKE A BELLY-LANDING! LIKE THIS!


THAT'LL TAKE SOME OF THE FIGHT OUT OF YOU!
OKAY, LAY OFF! THE CHIEF MAY WANT TO QUESTION HIM, AS LONG AS HE'S STILL ALIVE!
PAULUS, I PRESUME! YOUR AA GUNS AND ARMED KILLERS TOOK A SLIGHT ADVANTAGE OVER ME! TOO BAD!
SUPERIOR STRATEGY, MY DEAR BLACKHAWK! MILITARY TACTICS ARE MUTE TO THE NICETIES OF CHIVALRY! BESIDES, WE WERE EXPECTING YOU!
SCHWEITZER HAS JUST ARRIVED TO REPORT, SIR!
AH, YES! SEND HIM IN! I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR HIS VERSION OF THE REASON HE FUMBLED THE WIRING OF THE BLACKHAWK HEADQUARTERS!
YOU MUST FORGIVE ME! I... OHHHH!
EXCUSES ARE WEAK, SCHWEITZER! ONE FUMBLE IS PAR ON THIS COURSE!
BANG
IT'S A ROTTEN MURDERER WHO DEALS WITH HIS FRIENDS AS HE DOES WITH HIS ENEMIES!
IN THIS GAME, MISTAKES ARE THE WORST ENEMY, BLACKHAWK! COME! I AM ANXIOUS FOR YOU TO SEE MY LITTLE ISLAND EMPIRE! I'LL SUPPLY THE LINKS WHICH THE PEACE ORGANIZATION IS MISSING!
PAULUS SPEAKING! ORDER THE MAIN CONTROL ROOM TO LIFT THE ISLAND CAMOUFLAGE SYSTEM FOR A FEW MOMENTS!
THANK YOU! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE THE SIGHTS ON MY FIRST VISIT!
AS YOU CAN SEE WE ARE COMPLETELY EQUIPPED IN EVERY RESPECT! OUR GROUP CONSISTS OF FIGHTERS, AS WELL AS BOMBERS!


THERE'S MY FLEET, BLACKHAWK, LOADED TO THE GUNWALES WITH MUNITIONS FOR THE POOR, BLEEDING DEMOCRACIES! FIRST I STIR UP TROUBLE, THEN I SELL MY WARES TO BOTH SIDES!
THE WAR GAVE US MANY NEW WORDS, SUCH AS QUISLING AND FUHRER BUT I KNOW OF NO WORD TO DESCRIBE A MURDEROUS DEVIL LIKE YOU!
HARSH WORDS, MY DEAR BLACKHAWK! DEMOCRACY IS A FESTERING WOUND, SO WHAT BETTER WAY OF CAUTERIZING THE WOUND THAN BY RUBBING GUN-POWDER INTO IT?
R-R-R-R-R
YES, YES! DRAW THE CAMOUFLAGE AND LET THEM LAND! I HAVE SPECIAL PLANS FOR THEM!
IT'S THE BLACKHAWKS! THEY'LL BE SLAUGHTERED LIKE RATS IN A TRAP!
I KNOW BY THE WAY YOU'RE DROOLING IT'S THE BLACKHAWK SQUADRON!
YOU'RE PSYCHIC, MY DEAR FELLOW! HOWEVER, YOU'LL THINK MORE HIGHLY OF ME WHEN YOU HEAR THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOUR FRIENDS!
WITH THE BLACKHAWK SQUADRON ACTING AS GUARD OF HONOR, I EXPECT TO HAVE MY SHIPS CONVOYED SAFELY THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL BLOCKADE TO THEIR DESTINATION!
WHY, YOU LOW-DOWN, FILTHY MURDERER...
SEIZE HIM, YOU FOOLS... UGH!
NOT BEFORE I CHANGE THE CONTOURS OF THAT DIRTY MAP OF YOURS!
TAKE HIM TO THE DUNGEONS! I'LL DEAL WITH HIM LATER!
WHY NOT DISPOSE OF HIM NOW? HE FIGHTS WITH THE STRENGTH OF TEN MEN!
7


WELL, HOW DO I LOOK, BLACKHAWK? I'M SURE THAT WITH A BANDAGE OVER MY FACE I'LL BE ABLE TO LEAD YOUR MEN ON THEIR ESCORT MISSION WITHOUT AROUSING THEIR SUSPICIONS, EH?
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT, PAULUS! RATS LIKE YOURSELF USUALLY MAKE ONE MISTAKE! YOU'RE MAKING IT NOW!

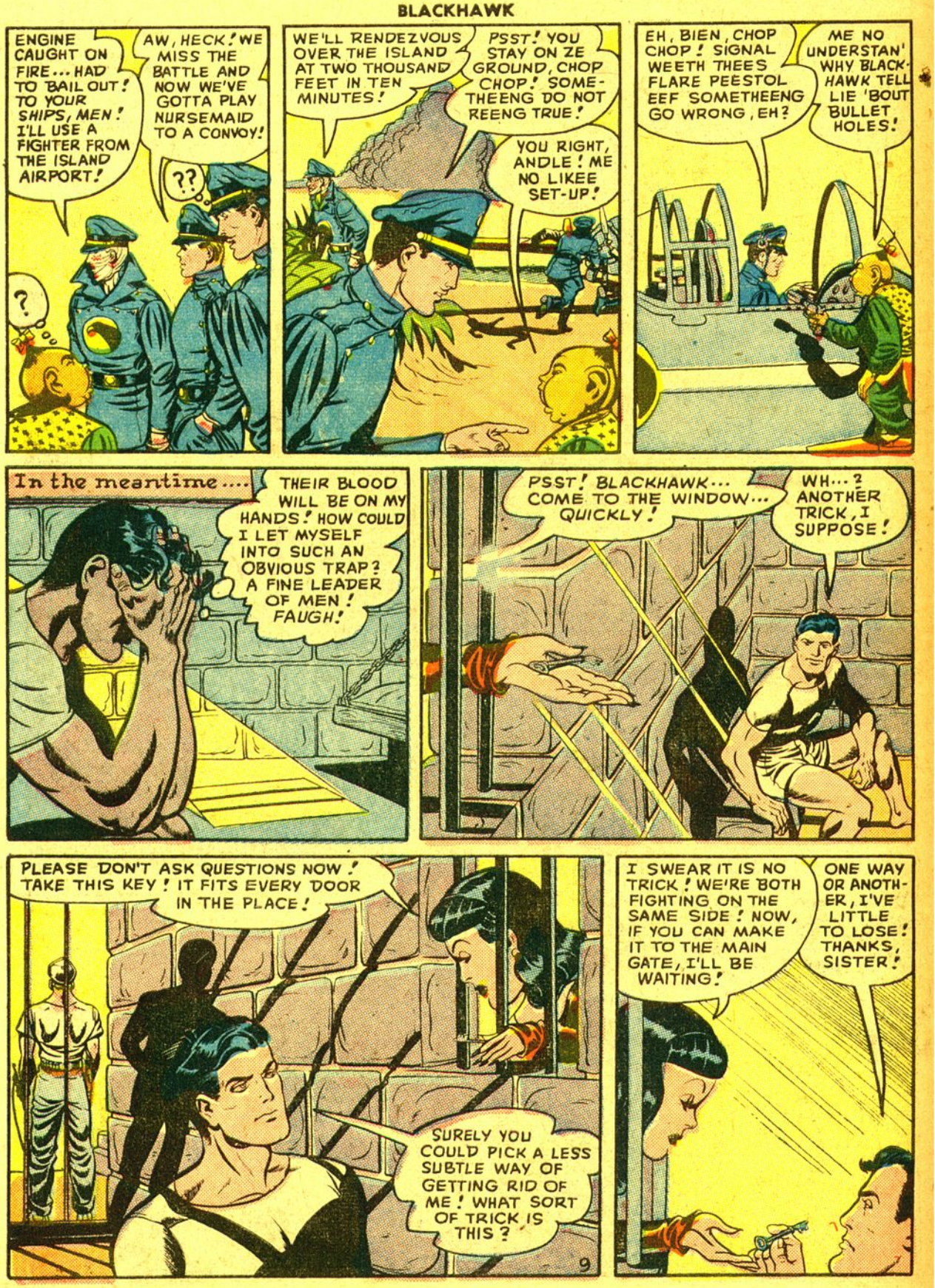

In the meantime, the Blackhawk Squadron circles above....
ANDRE CALLING BLACKHAWK SQUADRON! THEES EES WHERE WE FIXED BLACKHAWK'S EMERGENCY CALL---BUT ZERE EES NO SIGN OF LIFE BELOW!
WAIT! ME SEE WHAT LOOKEE LIKE WLECKAGE OF PLANE!

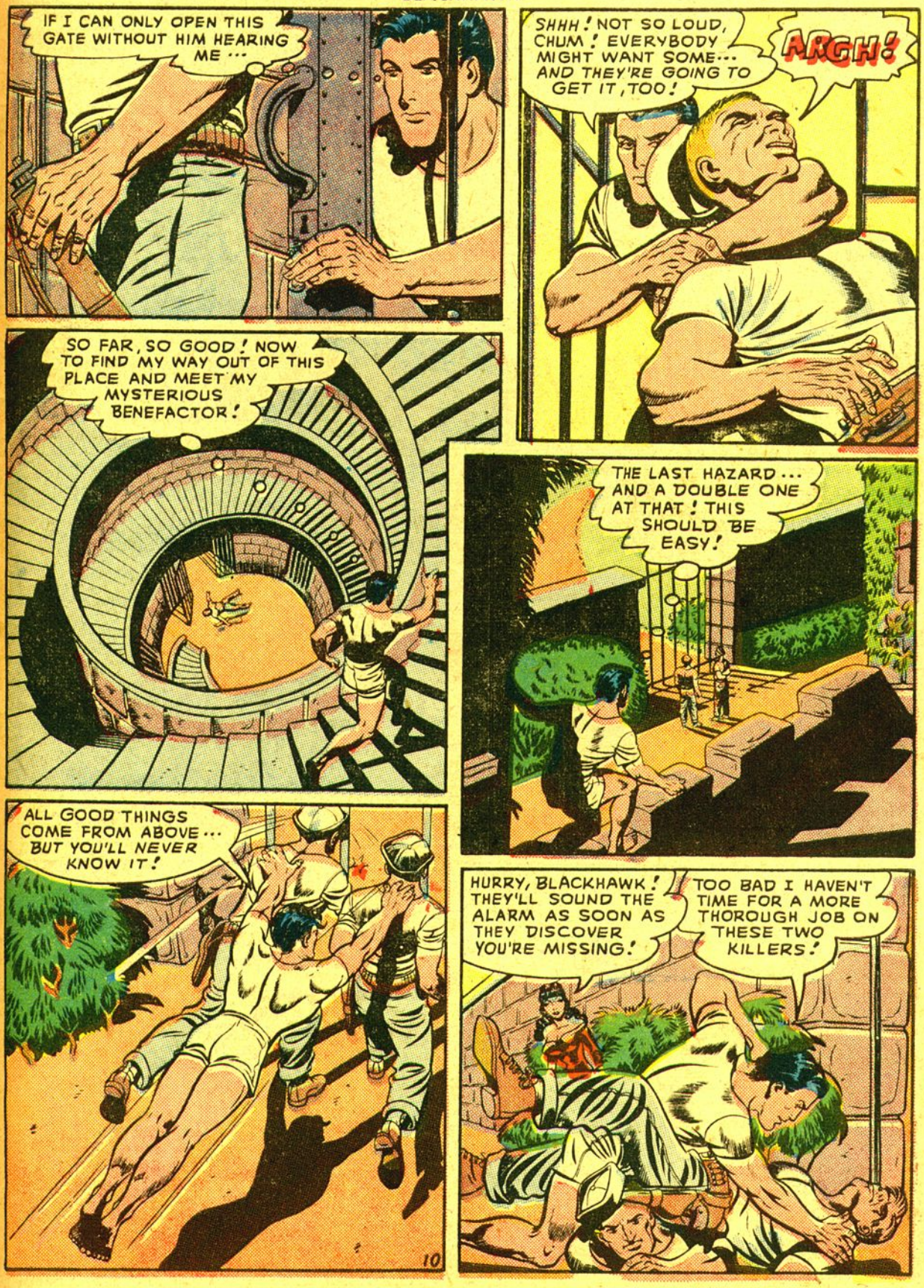

LOOKEE! MARKINGS ON PLANE BELONGEE BLACKHAWK!
NOTHEENG COULD SURVIVE SUCH A CRASH! I HOPE AND PRAY ZAT BLACKHAWK HE BAIL OUT!

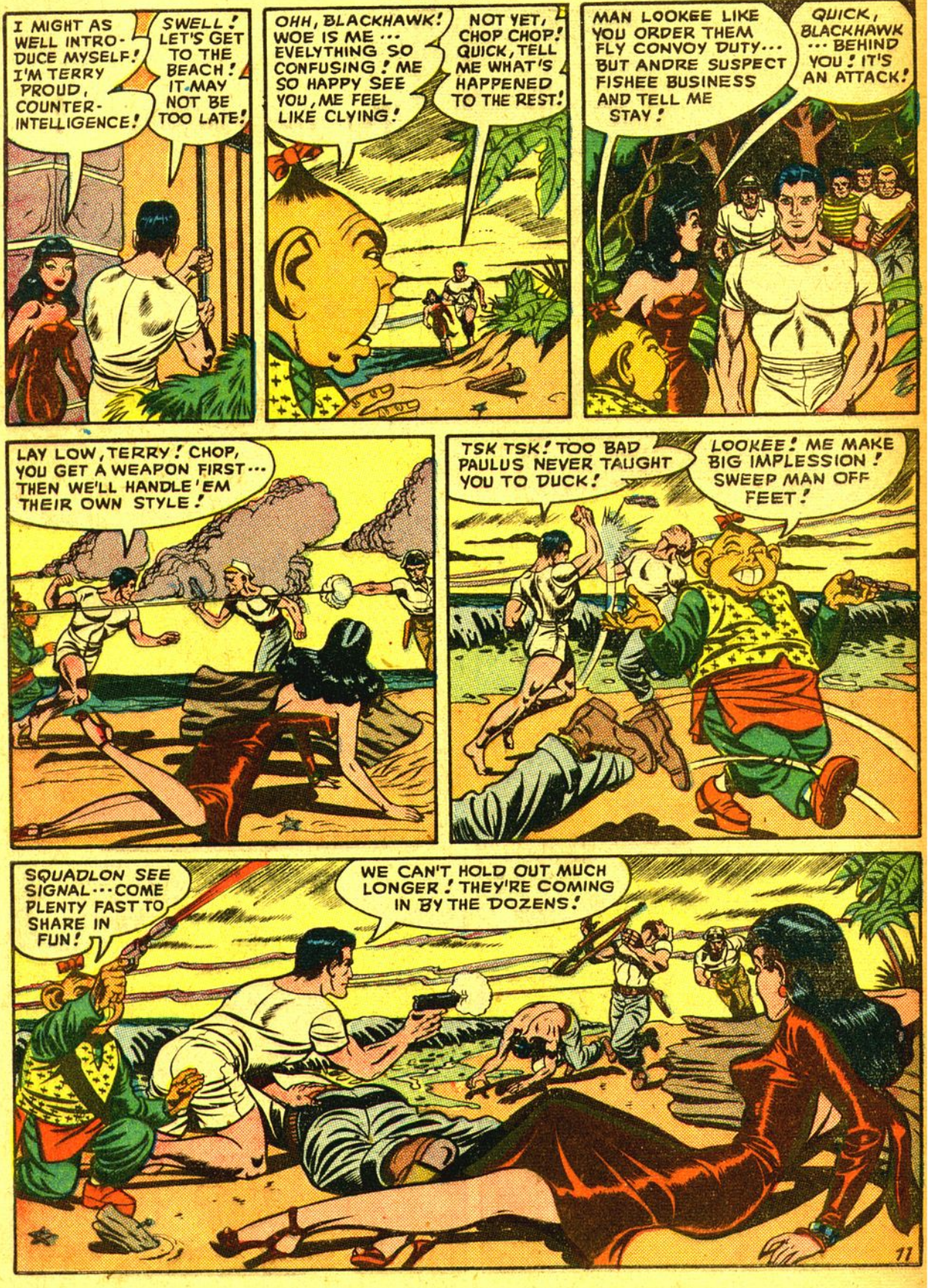

SOMETHING SMELL FISHY HERE! LOOKEE! SHELL HOLES IN WING!
SACRE BLEU! THEES EES BAD! BLACKHAWK WAS SHOT DOWN!

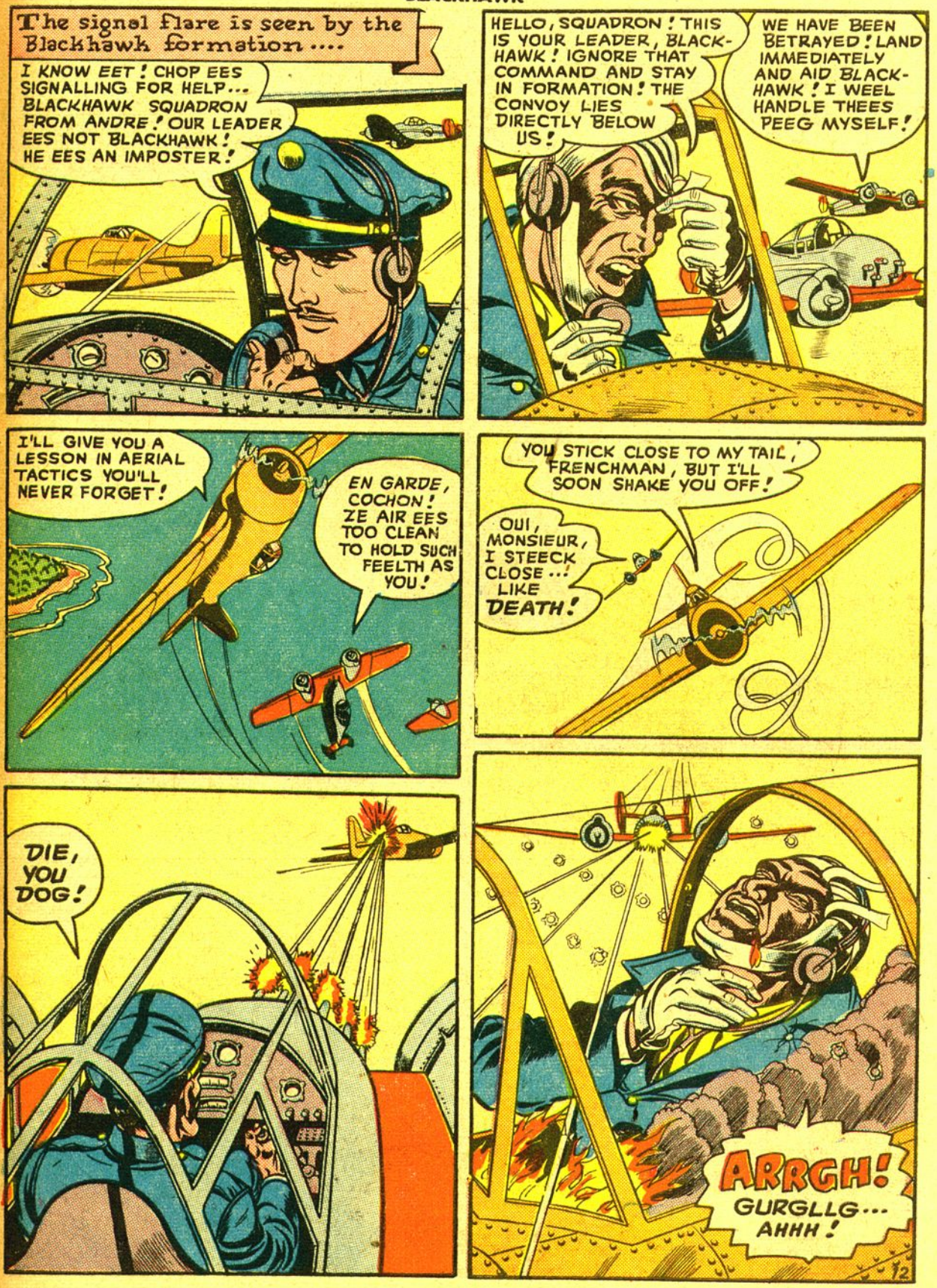

BLACKHAWK! YOU SCARE DAYLIGHTS OUT FROM US! FOR VUN MINUTE VE T'INK YOU'RE DEAD PIGEON!
AY T'ANK GOODNESS YOU BAN ALIVE, BLACKHAWK! YOU BAN HURT BAD?


THERE'S NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS, MEN! THE ISLAND IS UNDER CONTROL, BUT WE'VE GOT TO ESCORT A CARGO OF CONTRABAND MUNITIONS TO AN INTERNATIONAL PORT!
WHAT EES HAPPEN TO YOUR PLANE, BLACK-HAWK?

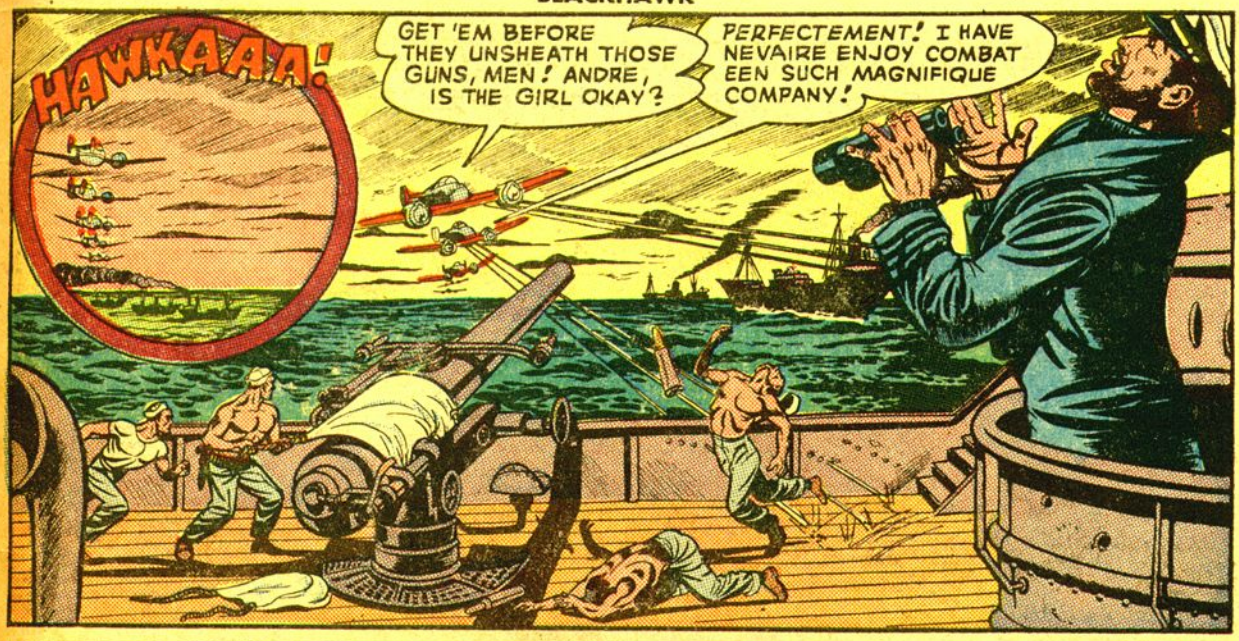

ENGINE CAUGHT ON FIRE... HAD TO BAIL OUT! TO YOUR SHIPS, MEN! I'LL USE A FIGHTER FROM THE ISLAND AIRPORT!
AW, HECK! WE MISS THE BATTLE AND NOW WE'VE GOTTA PLAY NURSEMAID TO A CONVOY!
??
?
WE'LL RENDEZVOUS OVER THE ISLAND AT TWO THOUSAND FEET IN TEN MINUTES!
PSST! YOU STAY ON ZE GROUND, CHOP CHOP! SOMETHEENG DO NOT REENG TRUE!
YOU RIGHT, ANDLE! ME NO LIKEE SET-UP!
EH, BIEN, CHOP CHOP! SIGNAL WEETH THEES FLARE PEESTOL EEF SOMETHEENG GO WRONG, EH?
ME NO UNDERSTAN' WHY BLACKHAWK TELL LIE 'BOUT BULLET HOLES!
In the meantime....
THEIR BLOOD WILL BE ON MY HANDS! HOW COULD I LET MYSELF INTO SUCH AN OBVIOUS TRAP? A FINE LEADER OF MEN! FAUGH!
PSST! BLACKHAWK... COME TO THE WINDOW... QUICKLY!
WH...? ANOTHER TRICK, I SUPPOSE!
PLEASE DON'T ASK QUESTIONS NOW! TAKE THIS KEY! IT FITS EVERY DOOR IN THE PLACE!
SURELY YOU COULD PICK A LESS SUBTLE WAY OF GETTING RID OF ME! WHAT SORT OF TRICK IS THIS?
I SWEAR IT IS NO TRICK! WE'RE BOTH FIGHTING ON THE SAME SIDE! NOW, IF YOU CAN MAKE IT TO THE MAIN GATE, I'LL BE WAITING!
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I'VE LITTLE TO LOSE! THANKS, SISTER!

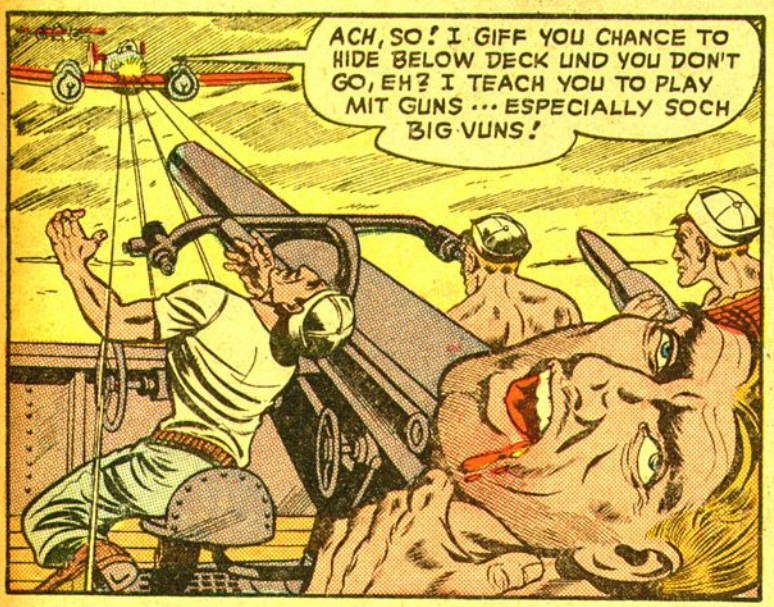

IF I CAN ONLY OPEN THIS GATE WITHOUT HIM HEARING ME ...
SHHH! NOT SO LOUD, CHUM! EVERYBODY MIGHT WANT SOME... AND THEY'RE GOING TO GET IT, TOO!
ARGH!
SO FAR, SO GOOD! NOW TO FIND MY WAY OUT OF THIS PLACE AND MEET MY MYSTERIOUS BENEFACTOR!
THE LAST HAZARD ... AND A DOUBLE ONE AT THAT! THIS SHOULD BE EASY!
ALL GOOD THINGS COME FROM ABOVE ... BUT YOU'LL NEVER KNOW IT!
HURRY, BLACKHAWK! THEY'LL SOUND THE ALARM AS SOON AS THEY DISCOVER YOU'RE MISSING!
TOO BAD I HAVEN'T TIME FOR A MORE THOROUGH JOB ON THESE TWO KILLERS!

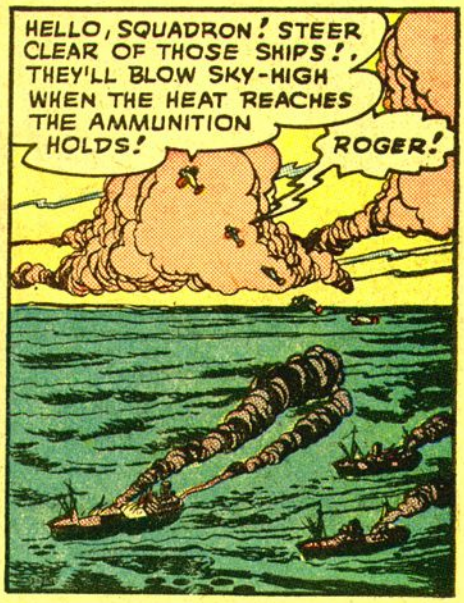

I MIGHT AS WELL INTRODUCE MYSELF! I'M TERRY PROUD, COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE!
SWELL! LET'S GET TO THE BEACH! IT MAY NOT BE TOO LATE!
OHH, BLACKHAWK! WOE IS ME ··· EVELYTHING SO CONFUSING! ME SO HAPPY SEE YOU, ME FEEL LIKE CLYING!
NOT YET, CHOP CHOP! QUICK, TELL ME WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE REST!
MAN LOOKEE LIKE YOU ORDER THEM FLY CONVOY DUTY··· BUT ANDRE SUSPECT FISHEE BUSINESS AND TELL ME STAY!
QUICK, BLACKHAWK ··· BEHIND YOU! IT'S AN ATTACK!
LAY LOW, TERRY! CHOP, YOU GET A WEAPON FIRST··· THEN WE'LL HANDLE 'EM THEIR OWN STYLE!
TSK TSK! TOO BAD PAULUS NEVER TAUGHT YOU TO DUCK!
LOOKEE! ME MAKE BIG IMPLESSION! SWEEP MAN OFF FEET!
SQUADLON SEE SIGNAL···COME PLENTY FAST TO SHARE IN FUN!
WE CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER! THEY'RE COMING IN BY THE DOZENS!

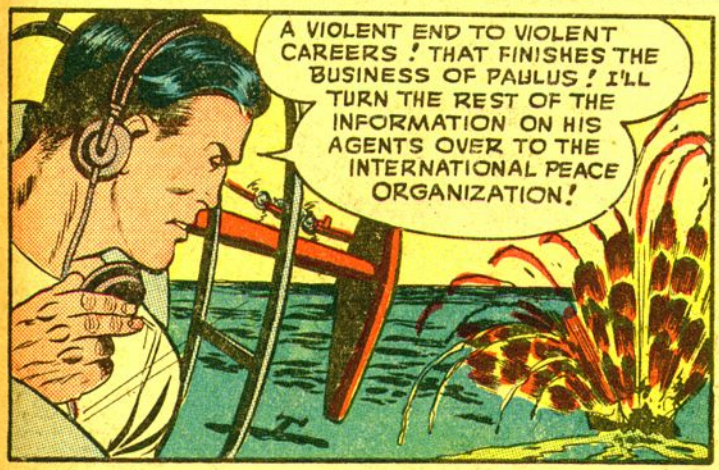

The signal flare is seen by the Blackhawk formation....
I KNOW EET! CHOP EES SIGNALLING FOR HELP... BLACKHAWK SQUADRON FROM ANDRE! OUR LEADER EES NOT BLACKHAWK! HE EES AN IMPOSTER!
HELLO, SQUADRON! THIS IS YOUR LEADER, BLACKHAWK! IGNORE THAT COMMAND AND STAY IN FORMATION! THE CONVOY LIES DIRECTLY BELOW US!
WE HAVE BEEN BETRAYED! LAND IMMEDIATELY AND AID BLACKHAWK! I WEEL HANDLE THEES PEEG MYSELF!
I'LL GIVE YOU A LESSON IN AERIAL TACTICS YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!
EN GARDE, COCHON! ZE AIR EES TOO CLEAN TO HOLD SUCH FEELTH AS YOU!
YOU STICK CLOSE TO MY TAIL, FRENCHMAN, BUT I'LL SOON SHAKE YOU OFF!
OUI, MONSIEUR, I STEECK CLOSE...! LIKE DEATH!
DIE, YOU DOG!
ARRGH! GURGLLG... AHHH!
12

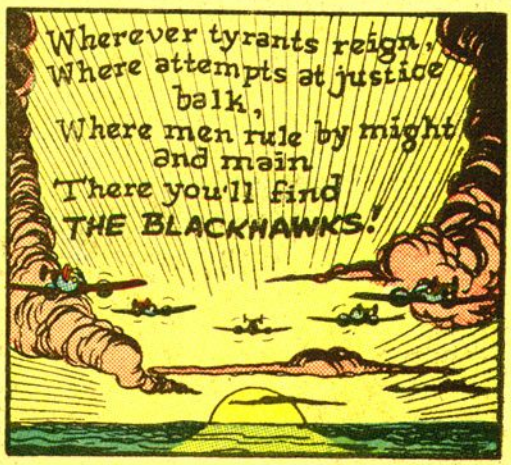

With a blood-curdling battle cry, the Blackhawk Squadron swoops to the kill....
HAWKA-A-A!
THANK GOODNESS! THEY CAME THROUGH IN TRUE BLACKHAWK STYLE!
LOOKEE! BLACKHAWKS MOW DOWN ENEMY LIKE WHEAT IN HARVEST TIME!
THEY'VE HAD ENOUGH! THEY'RE RUNNING!
WE'LL MOP UP THE REST WHEN THE SQUADRON LANDS!
WHOEVER THAT GUY WAS DRESSED LIKE YOU, HE SURE HAD US FOOLED FOR A WHILE!
AY T'ANK HE BAN GO FOR LONG REST! LAST TIME I SEE HIM, HE BAN CATCHING LOAD OF HOT LEAD FROM ANDRE'S GUNS!
SACRE BLEU! ZAT WAS GOOD HUNTING! ZE PEEG EES DEAD!
NICE WORK, ANDRE! THAT WAS PAULUS, THE MASTER-MIND HIMSELF!
TO THE PLANES, MEN! WE STILL HAVE THE CONVOY TO HANDLE! CHOP CHOP, YOU FLY WITH HENDRICKSON! TERRY, YOU DOUBLE UP WITH ANDRE! HE'S BETTER COMPANY! I'LL GO WITH CHUCK!
AH, BLACKHAWK, HE MAKE ZE GRAND JOKE, MA'AMSELLE!
BLACKHAWK SQUADRON FROM LEADER! CONVOY SIGHTED AT TWELVE O'CLOCK LOW! WE'LL TAKE 'EM IN RAT-RACE FORMATION ... OVER!
ROGER!


HAWKAAA!
GET 'EM BEFORE THEY UNSHEATH THOSE GUNS, MEN! ANDRE, IS THE GIRL OKAY?
PERFECTEMENT! I HAVE NEVAIRE ENJOY COMBAT EEN SUCH MAGNIFIQUE COMPANY!


ACH, SO! I GIFF YOU CHANCE TO HIDE BELOW DECK UND YOU DON'T GO, EH? I TEACH YOU TO PLAY MIT GUNS ··· ESPECIALLY SOCH BIG VUNS!

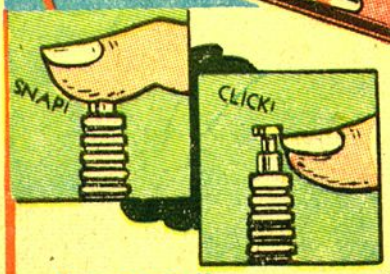

HELLO, SQUADRON! STEER CLEAR OF THOSE SHIPS!, THEY'LL BLOW SKY-HIGH WHEN THE HEAT REACHES THE AMMUNITION HOLDS!
ROGER!


A VIOLENT END TO VIOLENT CAREERS! THAT FINISHES THE BUSINESS OF PAULUS! I'LL TURN THE REST OF THE INFORMATION ON HIS AGENTS OVER TO THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE ORGANIZATION!


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Where attempts at justice balk,
Where men rule by might and main
There you'll find
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- Has spacious currency compartment which opens all the way for easier insertion or removal of bills.
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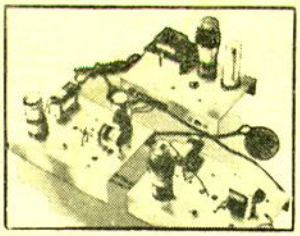
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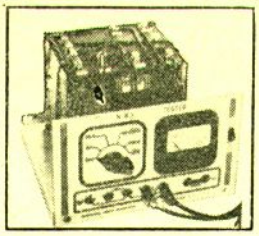
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